

## Doctor says he did not kill baby

Dr Leonard Arthur, aged 55, a child care specialist, has denied murdering a Down's syndrome baby rejected by his parents.

It was alleged at Leicester Crown Court that Dr Arthur ordered that the baby be fed a drug which stopped him sucking for food, and impaired his breathing.

The child had a toxic level which, it was claimed, would have killed an adult. Page 2

## Lib-SDP pact on election

Liberal and SDP leaders agreed on guidelines for the division of parliamentary seats at the next general election. The system will be based on each party fighting about half the seats, but locally there will be a range of disparity in the number of candidates.



## Sad day for Ching-Ching

Ching-Ching's face says it: the giant panda is not pregnant after all. The London Zoo confirmed it. It was discovered on Monday that her uterus was very enlarged but did not contain a foetus. Back page

## Anthrax found in soil sample

A police inquiry has started after scientists confirmed the presence of anthrax organisms in a soil sample sent anonymously to the Chemical Defence Establishment at Porton Down, Wiltshire. The senders said the soil had been taken from the Scottish island of Grunard. Page 2

## Briton kicked at Asiles trial

Mr Ian Cudde, a British journalist covering the murder trial of Mr Bob Asiles, a former Amin aide, said he was kicked and beaten by Ugandan police after being detained outside the High Court in Kampala. He was later released in the custody of a British diplomat. Trial report, page 10

## Lever warns of monetary crisis

Lord Lever warned that the West faced a grim period of crisis unless the monetary system was rapidly reformed. He outlined a programme to stabilize and support currencies, to establish a coherent financial strategy to help developing countries and to end what he called the currency 'rat race'. Page 19

## Opus Dei case is halted

A lecturer's fight to recover money he claims he was pressured into giving to Opus Dei, the Roman Catholic organization, suffered a setback in the High Court yesterday when the judge ruled that the central claim for £16,465 could not continue. Page 2

## Shareholders ready to fight

Representatives of British, French, Swiss, and Belgian shareholders of the Banque de Paris et des Pays Bas have met in Brussels to announce a legal fight to stop the French government from attempting to nationalize more than the strictly French interests of the company. Page 8

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# Tories reject Whitelaw line on fighting crime

From Our Political Staff, Blackpool

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The deep divisions within the Conservative Party were on full display yesterday as its annual conference opened in Blackpool with representatives debating a motion on law and order, supported by Mr William Whitelaw, the Deputy Leader and Home Secretary, as being too vague and feeble.

The defeat came after an ill-tempered debate in which Mr Tories jeered one young speaker who demanded that racists should leave the party. That debate shattered the union which greeted the arrival of the Prime Minister on the platform with a rendering of "Happy Birthday".

Mr Edward Heath, the former leader, sitting five seats away from his successor, joined in the celebration of her fifty-sixth birthday. However, their eyes never met.

Both Mr Whitelaw and Mr James Prior, the new Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, had uphill tasks as they spoke on a generally lacklustre day in the conference hall.

Outside, however, was different. Mr Norman St John-Stevas, dismissed by Mrs Thatcher in January, attacking the Government's economic strategy and saying that the party was heading for electoral catastrophe.

Today there will be a further attack on the Government's policy in a speech from Sir Ian Gilmour, who was recently ousted from the Cabinet. Senior Tories are also anxious about the possibility of angry scenes in front of the television cameras when Mr Heath speaks in a debate on the economy.

Speaking on BBC radio later, Mr Prior said there should be much more cooperation between the two. The border, if it is to remain a political border, certainly ought not to be an economic border.

Lord Carrington, the Foreign Secretary, and Mr James Doozie, the Irish Foreign Secretary, designate, are to meet in London today to discuss Anglo-Irish relations. They will discuss the final arrangements for a meeting between Mrs Thatcher and Dr Garret Fitzgerald, Prime Minister of the Republic, next month.

The assembly at Blackpool came to life in the afternoon when passions were aroused during a debate on law and order, solved by an early adjournment.

Surprisingly Mr Whitelaw was unable to persuade representatives to support a motion calling for a strengthening of the forces of law and order.

It was a defeat for the Home Secretary, who, with the Prime Minister at his side, had put up a vigorous defence of the measures which the Government is taking to strengthen the police forces in the wake of the riots last summer.

He had welcomed the motion but the conference was in a determined mood, with many believing that it was too vague and feeble in its proposals.

An overwhelming show of hands defeated the motion.

Immediately after the vote, the Home Secretary went to a room at the back of the hall to discuss the situation with the Prime Minister.

He said afterwards: "I think it was an emotional reaction to the vote. I think it was a motion which seemed to me to go for everything that we are doing. But apparently they did not think we were doing enough."

There could be even greater passion aroused and wider divisions displayed during the crucial economic debate.

## Anti-monetarist given Nobel economics prize

By David Blake

Professor James Tobin, one of the world's leading anti-monetarists, was yesterday named winner of the Nobel Prize in Economics. The 63-year-old Professor from Yale University in the United States was given the £100,000 prize by the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences for his work on financial markets and their relation to consumption and investment decisions, production, employment and prices.

Professor Tobin is best known for two contributions to economics, both of which are of crucial importance to the debate about economic policy in Britain today. Both mark him as being firmly on the "Keynesian" side of the divide among economists, but even economists who disagree with him accept his distinction.

His work on "portfolio selection theory" would help the investor who chooses between consumers and investors decide what to do they look at a whole range of assets.

This comes down to the idea that "money" in the sense in which it is used by monetarist economists, is not the only thing which matters.

Tories reviewed, page 16

Law and order; education; Prior on Ulster; St John-Stevas warning; rents pledge.

It was a speech which was acclaimed as brilliant by some dissenting Conservatives and came amid signs of a new determination among the so-called "wets" to put their case, despite the intense pressure from both at the conference and the constituencies not to rock the boat.

Mr Prior, fresh from the ending of the hunger strike at the Maze prison, reassured the party that there had been no concessions to the IRA and he once again emphasized that one of his main priorities in Ulster would be on the economic front, including links with the Irish Republic.

The change of emphasis from the political to an economic dimension was confirmed by Mr Prior when he told the conference that he would not be going ahead with the Northern Ireland Council, which was proposed in the summer by his predecessor, Mr Humphrey Atkins.

The council, which would have been advisory but made up of elected representatives, always appeared to be a non-starter because of the refusal of many parties to cooperate.

Mr Prior wanted more politicians in the province to have responsibility for internal affairs and there are to be regular ministerial visits between Ulster and the Republic.

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## 'They are Irish, I am Irish and they killed my son'

By Stewart Tendler, Crime Reporter

A second victim of the Provisional IRA bomb which exploded outside the Chelsea Barracks, London, on Saturday died yesterday in hospital. He was Mr John Breslin, aged 18, who lived in the Ebury Bridge Road area, close to where the bomb went off.

Mr Breslin was among 38 victims of the blast who were taken to Westminster Hospital. He had received serious head injuries.

His father, Mr Kevin Breslin, aged 43, said last night: "It's terrible. These people they are killing. They are Irish, I am Irish and they killed my son."

Mr Breslin, who was at his son's bedside when he died, said: "The doctors had told me it was hopeless after a five-hour operation on Saturday."

Mr Breslin, a building worker, came to Britain more than 20 years ago from Roscommon, West Ireland, and lives with his wife, Esther, also 43, and their two other children, Kevin, aged 16, and Helen, aged 13. He said he son never showed any interest in Irish politics.

Asked what he thought of Mr Ken Livingstone's comment that the IRA terrorists were not criminals, he retorted: "If they are not criminals, then what are they?"



## Mrs Thatcher stoops to conquer a cake

Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, went down on her knees for the press yesterday—and promptly vowed it would never happen again. Photographers persuaded the Prime Minister to kneel because a birthday cake she was to cut had been placed on a low table at the Imperial Hotel in Blackpool. Mrs Thatcher declared as she cut the cake: "This is the first and last time I will get on my knees for the press."

Conservatives at the opening of their annual conference added their congratulations to Mrs Thatcher's 56th birthday by singing "Happy Birthday" at the start of the day's business. A verse of the same song was delivered to Mr James Blake, Mayor of Blackpool, because it was his birthday, too. Mr Blake handed the Prime Minister a gift before conference rose to salute their leader in song. (Photograph by Peter Trievnor).

## Barclays and Lloyds cut their base rates by ½ per cent

By John Whitmore, Financial Correspondent

Two of the big High Street banks yesterday reinforced hopes that interest rates may have peaked by announcing a ½ per cent cut in their overnight rates. Barclays and Lloyds are reducing their base lending rates from 16 per cent to 15½ per cent with effect from close of business today.

Other clearing banks should follow suit, but it will take a further significant easing in money market interest rates before the building societies reconsider their rates.

The ½ per cent cut in base rates is modest, beside the 4 per cent rise that has taken place over the last month. But Mr Roy Vine, Barclays' senior general manager, said: "The slight easing of market rates now enables us to pass on the benefits to our customers at the earliest possible moment."

Ironically, news of the base rate reductions came at the end of a day when money market rates had tended to rise in response to further weakness in sterling on foreign exchange markets.

This inevitably gave rise to City suggestions that the base rate cut had been deliberately timed ahead of the Chancellor's economic report to the Tory Party conference at Blackpool this afternoon.

In addition to the small relief that lower base rates will afford industrial and personal borrowers, Barclays also said that its mortgage rate will now

only rise to 15 per cent on November 1 rather than the 15½ per cent originally planned. In fact, this does no more than bring Barclays back into line with several of the other clearing banks.

Mr Michael Tuke, secretary of the Woolwich Building Society, which announced on Monday that it was scrapping differential mortgage interest rates, said his society would want to see a clear downward trend in interest rates before it considered an interest rate reduction of its own.

News of the base rate reductions gave a late filling to markets which had earlier been falling back in the wake of sterling. The FT Index closed 6.4 down at 434.6 after being 11 points lower at midday.

Industrial production in August fell slightly but manufacturing output rose for the third successive month, according to official figures out yesterday. The Treasury immediately claimed that the figures showed signs of a general upturn in manufacturing, but the Confederation of British Industry said it saw no such signs. The figures all relate to the period before the latest rise in interest rates.

Details, page 19

## De Lorean issues seven writs alleging libel

By Frances Gibb

Libel writs were issued yesterday on behalf of the De Lorean Motor Company against seven defendants including Mr Nicholas Winterton, Conservative MP for Macclesfield, the BBC, IIN, and Mirror Group Newspapers over allegations of financial irregularities.

The writs were issued on behalf of Mr John De Lorean, head of the Belfast sports car company, De Lorean Motor Company and De Lorean Motor Cars Ltd by the London firm of solicitors, Goodman, Derrick and Co.

Speaking at Heathrow Airport before flying to New York, Mr De Lorean said: "Some of the media have claimed that I illegally took money from the company."

"If the writs succeed, maybe I won't have to take any money at all from the company and will be able to live off members of the media who libelled me," he claimed.

In a statement announcing the writs, the solicitors said of the claim against Mr Winterton, who first took up the alleged financial irregularities, that it "in no way arises out of the performance of his duties as a Member of Parliament, but relates solely to his 'broadcasting' to the world at large,

untrue, unsubstantiated and gravely damaging allegations."

It was after Mr Winterton took up the allegations with the Prime Minister that a police inquiry was launched. It cleared Mr De Lorean and his company completely of any criminal conduct.

The other writs were issued against: Miss Marion Gibson, the former typist at Mr De Lorean's New York office, who allegedly supplied Mr Winterton with documents; Mr William Haddad, the company's former communications director who was drawn into the affair because of an alleged memorandum detailing expenditure and Mr John Lisners, a freelance journalist, who worked on the story for the Daily Mirror.

Mr Winterton, who is at the Conservative Party conference in Blackpool, said: "I have no comment to make. The matter will be handled by my solicitor but I have as yet received no writ."

Mr Michael Molloy, editor of the Daily Mirror, said he had not yet received the writ.

"We stand by what we wrote in our story and we will just wait and see," Mr John Lisners, the freelance journalist, said he had not received a writ and could not comment.

## Heart operation for Schmidt

From Patricia Clough, Bonn, Oct 13

Herr Helmut Schmidt, the West German Chancellor, underwent an operation today for the insertion of a pacemaker in his heart at the military hospital in Koblenz.

The operation, which took place under local anaesthetic, took less than an hour and was stated to have been completely satisfactory. It all goes well the Chancellor should be back in harness next week.

Nevertheless it seems doubtful if Herr Schmidt will be able to attend the North-South conference of world leaders next week in Cancun, Mexico, or visit Washington for talks with President Reagan as had been tentatively planned.

The Chancellor had flown yesterday from his home in Hamburg to the hospital in Koblenz to be treated for what was described as "a feverish infection". However, a thorough medical examination revealed the danger of irregularities in his heartbeat.

Herr Kurt Becker, the government spokesman, said on television that the Chancellor had got through the operation extremely well and soon after had telephoned his wife, Hannelore, to reassure her.

The operation came as the Chancellor was fighting to defend his security and financial policies against a rising tide of dissent and disillusionment among his own party.

Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the Foreign Minister and Vice-Chancellor, who is in London for the EEC foreign ministers' conference, was expected to return to Bonn to take over temporarily as head of the government.

His progress will be watched with much trepidation, for since his Social Democrat-Free Democrat coalition won last year's elections, it had been clear that it was he, above all, who was keeping the partnership together. Without him, it will be difficult to convince the Free Democrats to continue to work with the Christian-Democratic Social Democrats.

Electrical impulses: Pacemakers are used to ensure that the heart beats at an adequate rate. The most common condition in which pacemakers are inserted is known as heart block, in which the heart beats at an abnormally slow rate (Annabel Ferriman writes).

This may have a number of causes. It may be caused by heart attack, or may develop in someone who suffers from hardening of the arteries.

The pacemaker is placed in a small pocket under the skin of the chest and is connected by a battery which can last for a number of years. It is possible to live with a pacemaker for many years, although the fact that someone requires one indicates that a vital portion of the heart has been damaged by an inadequate blood supply.

One third of Libya's oil goes to the United States, accounting for three per cent of America's oil imports.

Speaking at the luxurious palace in Cairo, where he has been staying since his arrival to attend the Sadat funeral, Mr Nimeiry described Libya's leader as "an unpredictable madman dedicated to the overthrow of the regimes in Sudan and Egypt."

Hours before the interview, two bombs exploded at Cairo airport in luggage from an aircraft which had come from Tripoli.

For the first time since the latest superpower crisis in the Middle East erupted, Mr Nimeiry predicted that war between Sudan and Libya was "inevitable" unless Colonel Gaddafi was overthrown.

"If he remains as head of state, the war cannot be avoided," the President told me. "He has been waiting for it for several years. He thinks he cannot lead the Arab world and Africa unless he puts his hands on both Sudan and Egypt."

Mr Nimeiry also appealed to the European Community countries, particularly Britain, France and West Germany—to follow America's recent example and provide Sudan with urgent military aid. He disclosed that a number of diplomatic cables had already been put out in Europe.

Mr Nimeiry said that extra air defences for Sudan were vital in the light of Libyan plans to bomb the Gezira dam across the Blue Nile, which is vital for the irrigation of a large populated sector of Sudan.

"We have seen two strategic Russian-made bombers on the airstrips which he has built in Chad and we are expecting them to bomb us at any moment if the Chad-Libya guerrillas put pressure on him."

Looking fit, despite a recent punishing schedule of diplomatic meetings in Cairo, Mr Nimeiry was speaking shortly after visiting personally in the Egyptian referendum to confirm Mr Hosni Mubarak as the next President.

His gesture of solidarity for Mr Mubarak—whom he has known personally since 1954—was made under recent dual nationality legislation between the countries.

Continued on page 8, col 1

## BARNARDO'S

## STILL NEEDS

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When Thomas Barnardo opened the first ever Dr Barnardo's home in 1869, he was just 24 years old. His purpose was to care for homeless and destitute boys and girls, and during his lifetime he helped over 500,000 such children. One largely to his work of rescuing them and drawing public attention to their plight, homeless beggar children are no longer a feature of our society. Yet the work Barnardo started over a 100 years ago is far from finished. Last year Barnardo's helped more than 9,000 children, some living in our residential homes and some living at home with their parents and being helped in our day care centres. Our residential homes look after children whose severe handicaps mean they require special care and whose own families are not equipped to provide. They also give short stay support to handicapped children whose parents deserve a well-earned break from the 24-hour attention such children often need. Our schools for the physically handicapped have pioneered more and more innovative care enabling these children to develop the skills they need to lead happy, useful lives. Our "half way house" hostels for teenagers provide an important bridge between residential care and moving into a home of their own, while our day care centres and social workers give support to families in difficulties and prevent children going into care needlessly. Our caring knows no limits but our money does. It costs a great deal to run all our residential homes, schools, day care centres and home visiting services. It buys a set of paints for a play group. It buys some special reading books for slow-moving children. It buys a bed. Every £1 you send helps. And it helps even more if you make regular payments by Direct Debit or credit card. Please request because that way we can claim back tax, so every £1 you send is worth £1.43 to us. Please send what you can today to me, Nicholas Lowe, Appeals Director, Room 158, Dr Barnardo's, Tenness Lane, New Basford, L66 10G. If you prefer to donate by credit card, please phone Telex 01-229 0299, quoting your card number and Barnardo's Room 158.

Dr Barnardo's



## 69-hour life of a mongoloid child

# Doctor denies murdering Down's syndrome baby

From Arthur Osman, Leicester

A Down's syndrome baby was prescribed an analgesic drug and a toxic level built up in his body to three times that which would have proved fatal to an adult, Leicester Crown Court heard yesterday.

The child's parents had rejected it, the court was told, and "nursing care only" had been written on its case notes.

Dr Leonard John Henry Arthur, aged 55, a senior consultant paediatrician employed by Trent regional hospital board at Derby City Hospital, pleaded not guilty to the murder of John Pearson, who lived for 69 hours. The baby died on July 1 last year. The trial, which is being heard by a jury of six women and six men, is expected to last between four and five weeks.

Mr Douglas Draycott, QC, for the prosecution, said the Director of Public Prosecutions had given a verbal guarantee of immunity to witnesses, including nurses and doctors at the hospital, who technically were accomplices of the defendant. But it was accepted that they were acting under Dr Arthur's directions. He said they must have known that the regime which was prescribed for the baby was bound to result in his death.

Dr Arthur, of Royal Oak Cottage, Church Brough, near Derby, was described as a conscientious paediatrician who showed great interest in mothers who were having babies.

Sister Cecilia Mahon, who delivered the baby on June 28 last year, said she had 17 years' nursing experience. In answer to Mr George Carman, QC, for Dr Arthur, she agreed he was highly respected, a conscientious paediatrician and a gentle man by nature. He was softly spoken and kind.

Mr Draycott said it was sad to see the doctor in the position he was in: "I am sure he took the step in what he thought generally was in the best interests of the child and parents."

He said the baby had an ordinary birth and was healthy. But it was obvious that it suffered from Down's syndrome, was mentally retarded and always would be.

Mrs Molly Pearson, the mother, of Worksworth, Derbyshire, rejected the child because it was mentally retarded. Dr Arthur had discussions with her and Mr John Pearson, the father, and subsequently made a note: "Parents do not wish it to survive. Nursing care only."

Nursing care meant it was to be cherished and looked after as well as possible; but no medical measures were to be taken. Dr Arthur prescribed the drug DF 118, a morphine-type, comprising dihydrocodeine, to be given orally at intervals of four hours, the dosage being five milligrams. The drug was

mixed with distilled water and was given in place of ordinary food.

Counsel said: "The purpose of this, said the Crown, was to accomplish the death of the baby and that was what was done."

Mr Draycott said the drug, which was a form of sedative, was to stop the child sucking and it repressed the part of the brain which enabled it to breathe and control the opening and shutting of its lungs. Down's syndrome children were particularly susceptible to pneumonia and that was the cause of death.

On the day the baby was born, it was put in its cot and the administration of the drug began at 2 pm. By 2.15 pm the baby was going grey and by 9 pm it was having difficulty breathing. It was fed again at 10 pm. In the early hours of the next day it had another feed and was having difficulty in sucking and breathing.

That condition continued and by 1 pm it had deteriorated rapidly. Its breathing was rattling and shallow and the child was sick. It was placid. It re-



Dr Leonard Arthur: "Nurses acted under his direction".

He remained calm and comfortable later that day when permission was given to a nurse to feed it by tube. It was then dehydrated and gasping for breath.

Mr Draycott said: "Nothing was done to relieve this child's distress. It had no ordinary medical treatment for the very obvious reason that nursing care only had been ordered."

The next day, June 30, by 2.30 pm it was whimpering and nurses comforted the child as best they could. Labouring breathing continued and at 9 pm it was getting to the terminal stage and was obviously dying.

Its stomach was distended because of the non-functioning of the bladder and bowels. A nurse pressed the bladder and the baby passed water and blood. Its feet and hands were blue and it was trying to get air, flinging its arms upwards. It dribbled mucus. It was incapable of sucking and at 11.50

p.m. it took all the dosage given to it by tube. That evening the hospital vicar was called in to christen it. At 5.10 next morning the baby died.

Mr Draycott said it was a matter of common sense that in a hospital if someone was ill steps were taken to relieve that illness. In this case the drug ensured the baby did not suffer more than was absolutely essential and it was allowed to die.

The cause of death was given on the death certificate as broncho-pneumonia due to the consequences of Down's syndrome.

A post mortem examination was held and police saw Dr Arthur. The officers explained they had received a communication from the chairman of an organization called Life. During questioning Dr Arthur allegedly said: "I would like you to know that I accept full responsibility for these events and the nurses were acting on my orders."

He allegedly said the child had been very ill and in answer to further questions in which the officers said they obviously intended that the child would ultimately die, Dr Arthur said: "I am fully responsible, no one else. I do not want to be a martyr and I do not want the nurses to be brought into it."

Mr Draycott said it was well known that it was dangerous to give drugs to newborn babies. The textbook entitled *The Paediatrician's Prescriber* pointed out that all drugs should be regarded as dangerous in the first week of life. Counsel said there had been no reason to give the drug to the child.

A baby's liver and kidneys were not functioning at that stage as they would in later life, and there was a build-up of the toxic level. The level had built up to three times that which would prove fatal to an adult. He continued: "We say there was no medical reason to give this child drugs at all; what it wanted was sustenance."

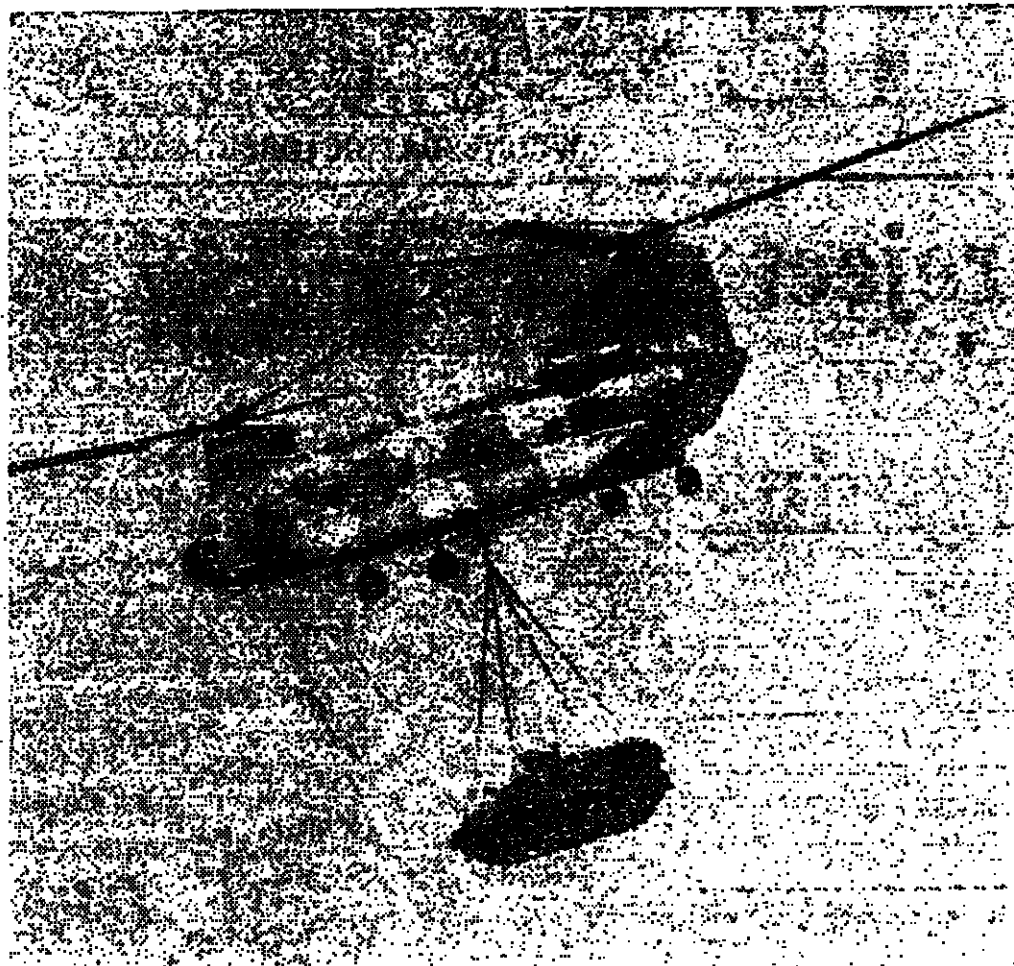
In a statement Dr Arthur was alleged to have said that the drug was to reduce any suffering on the part of the baby and not to cause its death.

Mr Draycott told the jury that the Crown alleged the purpose of the drug was to take away the baby's appetite and by so doing to bring about its death.

Before the jury was sworn in Mr Justice Farquharson asked the jurors if they belonged to any organized group whose purpose included discussing or advocating treatment for, or dealing with, severely handicapped children (the Press Association reports).

He said there were special circumstances to the case, and asked if any juror had regular dealings or a special interest in the affairs of severely handicapped children. None of the jurors replied.

The hearing continues today.



A new Chinook heavy-lift helicopter being put through its paces at RAF Odiham, Hampshire, yesterday when it was formally accepted into service by the RAF. The aircraft can carry 44 fully equipped troops or a variety of heavy loads ranging

from a five-ton truck or tank to a floating bridge. Its 21,000 lb payload at a range of 250 miles is almost four times that of the Puma helicopter already used by the RAF. (Photograph by John Manning).

## Labour group in move to oust Livingstone for IRA remark

Moves to oust Mr Ken Livingstone as leader of the Greater London Council will be made over the next week by some of his Labour colleagues, it appeared after a GLC meeting yesterday.

Some Labour members were seething over the reported comments of their leader on Saturday's IRA bomb attack in London.

Mr Livingstone has come under repeated criticism from his colleagues for making controversial statements about matters on which the group has expressed no view, and a number of Labour members indicated last night that they were insistent to be linked with the latest statements.

The Conservatives have called a special meeting of the council, which will be held next Wednesday, at which Sir Horace Cutler, the Conservative opposition leader, will move "that the council do censure the leader of the council for missing this position to further his extreme views on subjects over many of which the council has no jurisdiction, and particularly for his outrageous remarks on Saturday's IRA bombing in London on October 10."

Yesterday Mr Livingstone hit back at his critics, saying he had been quoted "utterly out of context" and that attacks on his remarks were ill-founded. He stood for one minute's silence with the rest of the council yesterday as a mark of

sympathy for the dead and injured victims of the bombing. Campaigning in the Croydon by-election yesterday Mr Stanley Boden, the Labour candidate, said that Mr Livingstone's remarks would not help Labour and that neither Mr Livingstone nor Mr Wedgwood Benn had been invited to speak because he did not know them.

Both Labour and Tory MPs yesterday joined the chorus of protests. Mr George Cunningham, Labour's home affairs spokesman said the GLC leader would do better to "shut up". He continued: "Coming from a man who wants to take over control of the Metropolitan Police, Livingstone's remarks are totally irresponsible."

Mr Peter Brooke, Conservative MP for the City and Westminster South, which includes the area hit by the bombing said: "Decent opinion throughout the land, and in London, would prefer Mr Livingstone to keep his opinions to himself until our wounds have healed."

In another attack, Lord Hailsham of St Marlebone, speaking in support of Mr John Burtenshaw, the Conservative candidate in the Croydon, North West by-election, said Mr Livingstone had "lack flags for murderers".

The Lord Chancellor said the woman killed by the IRA bomb was one of the citizens for whom Mr Livingstone was responsible, but he had claimed her killers were not really criminal and that we should try to understand them. He said that the results of the GLC election should put everyone on their guard.

The moderate leader was sacked, and out of the woodwork there crawled the inexpressible Ken Livingstone and his cronies with their black flags for murderers and no tears for our own murdered sons in the Army and the Police."

He described Mr Livingstone's coming to power as appalling and sinister. Mr Livingstone said: "I have been vigorously attacked for remarks I made about the IRA. The attack is ill-founded, and, by quoting utterly out of context, presents a view that is not mine."

He said he would be referring one national newspaper to the Press Council for alleged distortion, and added: "I condemn all violence on London streets. My concern is to see the threat of violence removed."

These people believe that they have strong political motivation and this makes them much harder to crush. Catch one, another takes his place, whereas if you catch an individual psychopath he is not replaced and the crimes cease."

Military and police methods had failed to solve the troubles. Letters, page 17

## Anthrax spores found in protest soil sample

By Henry Stanhope, Defence Correspondent

Defence scientists have confirmed the presence of anthrax organisms in a soil sample which was sent to the Chemical Defence Establishment at Porton Down, Wiltshire, several days ago.

A police inquiry is being launched into the incident which constituted a risk to public health, the Ministry of Defence said last night.

The senders of the unusual package of soil claimed that it was from Grinard, the island off north-west Scotland, which has been barred to visitors since microbiological experiments involving anthrax spores were carried out there during the Second World War.

The results of the tests are taken as proof that the protest is not a hoax and must be taken seriously, although the level of contamination is said to be low.

In a statement in London last night the ministry said: "Tests carried out by the Ministry of Defence on a sample of soil allegedly taken from Grinard island in Scotland and left at Porton Down last week, indicate that the level of bacillus anthracis is higher than would be expected in an ordinary soil sample."

"The sample which was taken from soil left at Porton Down is consistent with soil from Grinard island. The tests have shown a potentially infectious agent present in the soil, but at a level of less than 10 organisms per gramme of soil - means that the risk of human infection is small."

However, those who sent the soil to the CDE have taken a risk with public health."

## Father threw son off cliff

From Our Correspondent, Dover

Mr Peter Berridge, aged 42, a former taxi driver of Farnham Road, West Kensington, London, travelled to Dover with his two children in September. He climbed to the top of 300ft cliffs and threw his son John, aged 4, to his death, then jumped with his daughter Joanna, aged two in his arms.

Mr Richard Sturt, the East Kent coroner, was told yesterday that Joanna did not die, she was recovering in Dover Hospital.

Evidence was given that Mr Berridge was worried. The coroner recorded verdicts that Mr Berridge took his own life and that his son was unlawfully killed, though coroners' rules did not permit him to say by whom.

Mr Berridge was a taxi driver and was recovering in Dover Hospital. Evidence was given that Mr Berridge was worried. The coroner recorded verdicts that Mr Berridge took his own life and that his son was unlawfully killed, though coroners' rules did not permit him to say by whom.

## Two moderates challenge Scargill

From Ronald Kershaw, Mansfield

Mr Ray Chadburn, president of the Nottinghamshire area of the National Union of Mineworkers, is considering re-entering the election race for the union's presidency.

If he does, his nomination will be a serious threat to Mr Arthur Scargill, Yorkshire miners' president, whose success over Mr Trevor Bell, of the Colliery Officials and Staffs Area (COSA), the NUM, the only other candidate, is widely regarded as cut-and-dried.

Since Mr Chadburn announced a year ago his intention to withdraw from the election, he has been under immense and constant pressure from his own constituency, which with 35,000 members is second biggest to Yorkshire, and from other NUM areas including Cumberland, North Wales, South Derbyshire and Leicester-

shire, to reconsider. By not running he meant to ease the passage of fellow moderate, Mr Bell, by not splitting the moderate vote against left-winger Mr Scargill.

The reasoning behind the anti-Scargill pressure group is that above all most NUM members want a miner for their president, and despite the fact that Mr Bell worked for many years underground, as general Secretary of COSA, he is regarded as a white-collar worker and men will vote, however reluctantly, for Mr Scargill, a miner, or will abstain.

Mr Chadburn is a miner and it is considered that with three candidates in the field, two of whom are moderates and two of whom are miners, Mr Scargill will not obtain an overall majority on a first ballot and

## Opus Dei cash claim is dropped

By Clifford Longley

Religious Affairs Correspondent

A former senior member of Opus Dei, an international Roman Catholic organization, had an arguable case for the recovery of money he had given to it during his time as a member, Mr Justice Slade said in the High Court yesterday, but he refused to let the claim continue against Father Philip Sherrington, regional councillor of Opus Dei in Britain, who was being sued as a representative of the organization.

Dr John Roche, an Oxford academic who left Opus Dei in 1974, was claiming the repayment of more than £20,000 which he alleges was obtained from him by undue influence.

Opus Dei was described by the judge as an incorporated association which could be proceeded against by means of representative persons, but in this case some members might have joined after Dr Roche left, and could not be made liable for repayment.

The results of an investigation into the affairs of Opus Dei, based partly on material supplied by Dr Roche, were published in *The Times*.

The case has yet to come to trial on the main issues. Father Sherrington was originally named as a codefendant with Mr R. C. Farrell, who was not represented yesterday. The judge ordered that the claim against Father Sherrington be struck out, as it showed no reasonable cause of action against him "or against all member of Opus Dei".

The claim against a third defendant, the Netherhall Education Association, was stayed by the judge pending the addition of two more defendants, a Mr Drakard and a Mr Burrows, who at one time, Dr Roche alleged, had been designated cosignatories for cheques drawn on the association.

Law Report, page 10

## BL FACING TWO PAY BATTLES

Growing unrest among BL white-collar workers over management delay in replying to their claim for an 11.5 per cent pay increase could add to the troubles the company already faces through the threatened annual strike by its 38,000 manual workers.

Unions and computer staff unions which submitted their claim on Monday were told that they would have to wait two weeks for the company's answer. They see this as an attempt to get the manual workers' claim for a 10 per cent increase of £20 a week, out of the way before tackling the staff issue.

Mass meetings are taking place at all plants on Friday to vote on the call by mutual union leaders for a strike beginning on November 1, unless the company substantially increases its 3.8 per cent offer.

Staff unrest boiled over at Loughborough yesterday when members of the Association of Professional, Executive, Clerical and Computer staff (APEX) stopped work to hold a meeting. They were protesting at restrictions placed on their senior steward, Mrs Jean Travis. In line with recently introduced company policy, she had been refused full-time union facilities and told that she must work when not engaged on authorized union business.

The meeting, which represented only a minority of APEX's 1,500 members in the plant, voted to introduce work sanctions to force the company to change its mind.

## BEER MAY GO UP 4p A PINT

By Derek Harris

Commercial Editor

Wanney Mann and Truman, part of the Grand Metropolitan Group, is raising draught beer prices in most of its south of England regions by 2p a pint, wholesale. Bar prices could rise by more than 4p a pint.

It signals a likely new round of price rises in the South, after similar increases in the North. The Wanney increases due on October 26 vary between regions. Carlsberg draught lager is also going up by about 3p at the bar.

Wanney last raised prices in the south in January but in the north, where there were some rises during the summer, some additional marginal increases are expected soon for Grand Metropolitan brews like Dry-rough in Scotland, Wilsons in the north west and Samuel Webster in Yorkshire.

## Science report

## Vaccine may have caused outbreak

By the Staff of Nature

The outbreaks of foot and mouth disease in Jersey, the Isle of Wight and northern France earlier this year were probably caused by live virus that had either escaped from a laboratory or had not been completely inactivated during vaccine production. This is the conclusion of a group of scientists at the Animal Virus Research Institute at Pirbright in Surrey, who have found that the strain of virus responsible for the outbreaks is identical to the strain commonly used to produce vaccines in Europe.

Winds blowing across the Channel appeared to have carried the virus from infected areas in Brittany and Normandy to Britain, and Dr A. M. Q. King and colleagues at Pirbright confirmed that suspicion when they compared the viruses isolated from French British cattle. But when they went on to compare the strain with 16 other known strains, they found it was also identical to the strain used in 1963, 1965, 1967, 1968, 1969, 1970, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1974, 1975, 1976, 1977, 1978, 1979, 1980, 1981, 1982, 1983, 1984, 1985, 1986, 1987, 1988, 1989, 1990, 1991, 1992, 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026, 2027, 2028, 2029, 2030, 2031, 2032, 2033, 2034, 2035, 2036, 2037, 2038, 2039, 2040, 2041, 2042, 2043, 2044, 2045, 2046, 2047, 2048, 2049, 2050, 2051, 2052, 2053, 2054, 2055, 2056, 2057, 2058, 2059, 2060, 2061, 2062, 2063, 2064, 2065, 2066, 2067, 2068, 2069, 2070, 2071, 2072, 2073, 2074, 2075, 2076, 2077, 2078, 2079, 2080, 2081, 2082, 2083, 2084, 2085, 2086, 2087, 2088, 2089, 2090, 2091, 2092, 2093, 2094, 2095, 2096, 2097, 2098, 2099, 2100, 2101, 2102, 2103, 2104, 2105, 2106, 2107, 2108, 2109, 2110, 2111, 2112, 2113, 2114, 2115, 2116, 2117, 2118, 2119, 2120, 2121, 2122, 2123, 2124, 2125, 2126, 2127, 2128, 2129, 2130, 2131, 2132, 2133, 2134, 2135, 2136, 2137, 2138, 2139, 2140, 2141, 2142, 2143, 2144, 2145, 2146, 2147, 2148, 2149, 2150, 2151, 2152, 2153, 2154, 2155, 2156, 2157, 2158, 2159, 2160, 2161, 2162, 2163, 2164, 2165, 2166, 2167, 2168, 2169, 2170, 2171, 2172, 2173, 2174, 2175, 2176, 2177, 2178, 2179, 2180, 2181, 2182, 2183, 2184, 2185, 2186, 2187, 2188, 2189, 2190, 2191, 2192, 2193, 2194, 2195, 2196, 2197, 2198, 2199, 2200, 2201, 2202, 2203, 2204, 2205, 2206, 2207, 2208, 2209, 2210, 2211, 2212, 2213, 2214, 2215, 2216, 2217, 2218, 2219, 2220, 2221, 2222, 2223, 2224, 2225, 2226, 2227, 2228, 2229, 2230, 2231, 2232, 2233, 2234, 2235, 2236, 2237, 2238, 2239, 2240, 2241, 2242, 2243, 2244, 2245, 2246, 2247, 2248, 2249, 2250, 2251, 2252, 2253, 2254, 2255, 2256, 2257, 2258, 2259, 2260, 2261, 2262, 2263, 2264, 2265, 2266, 2267, 2268, 2269, 2270, 2271, 2272, 2273, 2274, 2275, 2276, 2277, 2278, 2279, 2280, 2281, 2282, 2283, 2284, 2285, 2286, 2287, 2288, 2289, 2290, 2291, 2292, 2293, 2294, 2295, 2296, 2297, 2298, 2299, 2300, 2301, 2302, 2303, 2304, 2305, 2306, 2307, 2308, 2309, 2310, 2311, 2312, 2313, 2314, 2315, 2316, 2317, 2318, 2319, 2320, 2321, 2322, 2323, 2324, 2325, 2326, 2327, 2328, 2329, 2330, 2331, 2332, 2333, 2334, 2335, 2336, 2337, 2338, 2339, 2340, 2341, 2342, 2343, 2344, 2345, 2346, 2347, 2348, 2349, 2350, 2351, 2352, 2353, 2354, 2355, 2356, 2357, 2358, 2359, 2360, 2361, 2362, 2363, 2364, 2365, 2366, 2367, 2368, 2369, 2370, 2371, 2372, 2373, 2374, 2375, 2376, 2377, 2378, 2379, 2380, 2381, 2382, 2383, 2384, 2385, 2386, 2387, 2388, 2389, 2390, 2391, 2392, 2393, 2394, 2395, 2396, 2397, 2398, 2399, 2400, 2401, 2402, 2403, 2404, 2405, 2406, 2407, 2408, 2409, 2410, 2411, 2412, 2413, 2414, 2415, 2416, 2417, 2418, 2419, 2420, 2421, 2422, 2423, 2424, 2425, 2426, 2427, 2428, 2429, 2430, 2431, 2432, 2433, 2434, 2435, 2436, 2437, 2438, 2439, 2440, 2441, 2442, 2443, 2444, 2445, 2446, 2447, 2448, 2449, 2450, 2451, 2452, 2453, 2454, 2455, 2456, 2457, 2458, 2459, 2460, 2461, 2462, 2463, 2464, 2465, 2466, 2467, 2468, 2469, 2470, 2471, 2472, 2473, 2474, 2475, 2476, 2477, 2478, 2479, 2480, 2481, 2482, 2483, 2484, 2485, 2486, 2487, 2488, 2489, 2490, 2491, 2492, 2493, 2494, 2495, 2496, 2497, 2498, 2499, 2500, 2501, 2502, 2503, 2504, 2505, 2506, 2507, 2508, 2509, 2510, 2511, 2512, 2513, 2514, 2515, 2516, 2517, 2518, 2519, 2520, 2521, 2522, 2523, 2524, 2525, 2526, 2527, 2528, 2529, 2530, 2531, 2532, 2533, 2534, 2535, 2536, 2537, 2538, 2539, 2540, 2541, 2542, 2543, 2544, 2545, 2546, 2547, 2548, 2549, 2550, 2551, 2552, 2553, 2554, 2555, 2556, 2557, 2558, 2559, 2560, 2561, 2562, 2563, 2564, 2565, 2566, 2567, 2568, 2569, 2570, 2571, 2572, 2573, 2574, 2575, 2576, 2577, 2578, 2579, 2580, 2581, 2582, 2583, 2584, 2585, 2586, 2587, 2588, 2589, 2590, 2591, 2592, 2593, 2594, 2595, 2596, 2597, 2598, 2599, 2600, 2601, 2602, 2603, 2604, 2605, 2606, 2607, 2608, 2609, 2610, 2611, 2612, 2613, 2614, 2615, 2616, 2617, 2618, 2619, 2620, 2621, 2622, 2623, 2624, 2625, 2626, 2627, 2628, 2629, 2630, 2631, 2632, 2633, 2634, 2635, 2636, 2637, 2638, 2639, 2640, 2641, 2642, 2643, 2644, 2645, 2646, 2647, 2648, 2649, 2650, 2651, 2652, 2653, 2654, 2655, 2656, 2657, 2658, 2659, 2660, 2661, 2662, 2663, 2664, 2665, 2666, 2667, 2668, 2669, 2670, 2671, 2672, 2673, 2674, 2675, 2676, 2677, 2678, 2679, 2680, 2681, 2682, 2683



## Anderton nearer accord with police committee

From John Chartres, Manchester

The beginning of a rapprochement in the uneasy relationship between Mr James Anderton, chief constable of Greater Manchester and his Labour-controlled police committee seemed to advance a stage further yesterday after the hasty publication of the independent tribunal report on July Moss Side riots, Mr Anderton said. "It is a useful document containing a number of specific recommendations and general suggestions worthy of the most serious consideration."

"I am sure that the Greater Manchester police committee will wish to discuss these issues with me in due course and call for further information and police reports."

Mr Anderton declined to accept unionists' specific questions yesterday. The report of the tribunal, chaired by Mr Benet Hytner, QC, ceased final judgment on most of the police actions during the riots, but suggested that certain aspects should be discussed between the police committee and Mr Anderton.

It particularly suggested that both sides should accept each other's good faith and

advised the avoidance of "loose and ill-considered language."

Specific points which the tribunal suggested should be subjected to further scrutiny by the constable and the police committee include:

1. Evidence pointing to over-reaction by police which ought to be subject to effective and searching investigation;
2. The reasons for the build-up of hostility between young people both black and white and the police, sometimes amounting to hatred, and possible links between that sense of mistrust and the youth and relative inexperience of many of the policemen employed in the Moss Side area;
3. The use of charge tactics on two different occasions by policemen on foot and in vans;
4. The complaints procedure on which the tribunal has made specific recommendations that a community representative should be appointed to receive, sift and pass on complaints to the police, and that a senior police officer from outside should be Moss Side to review complaints.

## Trethowan denies cuts threat to Radio 3

By a Staff Reporter

Sir Ian Trethowan, director general of the BBC, denied yesterday that there was a threat to Radio 3 from further economy measures.

Replying to a listener who telephoned a question to the Radio 4 Tuesday Call programme, Sir Ian said: "On the contrary, Radio 3 is a unique and distinctive part of the service and will be protected by those who listen to it."

It had to be recognized, however, that it was a minority service and had few listeners compared with Radios 1 and 2. The BBC was funded by a licence fee of 18,500,000 people, and had to give every one of them a

service that left them thinking they had got their money's worth.

To a question about over-manning, Sir Ian said that one of two areas were being discussed with the unions, but these did not form a major element in broadcasting costs.

He also spoke of the proposed government cuts in the BBC's external services. The savings they represented, he said, was peanuts.

Lord Carrington, the Foreign Secretary, has told Lord Byers, Leader of the Liberal peers, that he hopes a statement on the cuts will be possible later this month.

## Fear of atomic waste in food-growing valley

Opposition is mounting to a proposal by the Institute of Geological Sciences to explore the Vale of Evesham, one of the country's principal food-producing areas, as a possible site for dumping radioactive nuclear waste. The institute has applied for planning permission to make test drillings at Pershore airfield, Hereford and Worcester, and at Stoke Orchard, near Tewkesbury, Gloucestershire.

Test drilling is intended to establish whether underlying rock strata are stable enough for storing nuclear waste. Anti-dumping campaigners yesterday urged Wychavon and Tewkesbury district councils to reject the planning applications.

Mr Peter Walter, speaking for the "No to Atomic Waste" group, said: "This could put the Vale of Evesham on the shortlist for becoming Britain's first nuclear dump. It is a lunatic proposal."

Mr Walter said many scientists opposed underground disposal on the ground that it

could not be proved safe in the short time allowed for research.

All councils in England where drilling has been proposed have refused planning permission. Somerset County Council even refused to discuss the application and called for a national inquiry into nuclear waste disposal.

Mr Denis Brooks, chairman of Wychavon council's planning committee, said: "I am certainly apprehensive about the prospect of nuclear waste being dumped in one of Britain's most important vegetable and fruit gardens. The application has alarmed many local people, but we shall try to look at the matter soberly."

The National Farmers Union said: "We are seriously concerned at the prospect of this dumping and our officers will be monitoring the situation very closely. We shall reserve any protest until we know if and when the vale has been proved suitable for burying radioactive material."

## BBC digs in behind ramparts

From Kenneth Gosling, Belfast

Outside, the pneumatic drills clatter mercilessly. But inside the fortress-like headquarters of the BBC in the Belfast city centre the sounds are muffled. There is good reason to be grateful for the thickness of the walls.

"We had a car bomb go off outside and all we felt was a slight tremor", Janet Quigg, the information officer, said as our small press party toured the building in the wake of Mr George Howard, the BBC chairman.

He is in Belfast to inaugurate the first Broadcasting Council for Northern Ireland, putting the BBC on the same footing as its counterparts in Scotland and Wales.

No one complains about the drills because their message is one of hope. The island site near the City Hall will house a purpose-built studio complex, the cost running close to £10m over five years.

"What is good about it is that it gives our staff the feeling that the BBC is here to stay," Mr James Hawthorne, controller of BBC Northern Ireland, remarked.

He and Mr Cecil Taylor, head of programmes, reflect on the huge difficulties that confront them in news and current affairs, and on the general unpopularity of the BBC here.

Twenty years ago, if you said you worked for the BBC you were well received, people were eager to talk to you, there were free seats at the cinema. Today things are different. Mr Hawthorne is not complaining. He tells it as it is.

The BBC Northern Ireland has behaved professionally and honourably in the last 12 years, which is why we are so enormously unpopular. We insist on telling the story and we tell it, and all —

and we have made people uncomfortable."

Part of their difficulty is that people fail to understand their problem, to see how difficult it is to cover a divided country.

And when there has been trouble when a woman has been widowed, the BBC's information office becomes a place to turn to in distress, and Janet Quigg and her staff lend a compassionate ear.

But try as the BBC does, to analyse the nature of the problem and "nobody out there thanks you for it", Mr Hawthorne says.

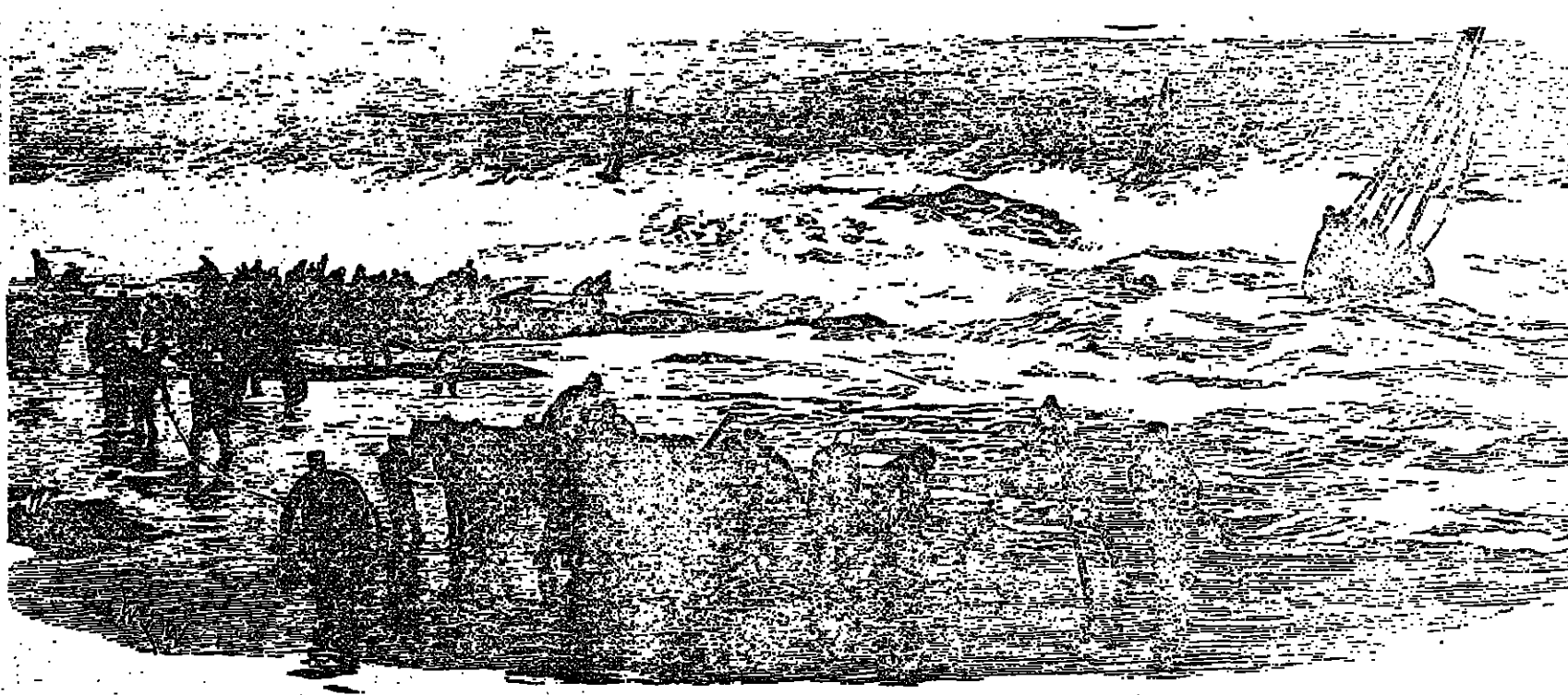
"When I was director-general, Sir Charles Curran said Northern Ireland was the BBC's biggest editorial problem. The BBC has found itself defending its coverage against its own customers and against the politicians. And politicians in office are very powerful people."

But it is not all news and current affairs. There are many more programmes that are pleasant and entertaining than are unpleasant and uncomfortable. And in the past three years, since Mr Hawthorne became controller, they have been trying to find themselves a place on the network as of right, not as part of some quota system.

Mr Taylor says he is encouraged by the now substantial flow of good writing, without which good programmes are impossible. And the writers use the whole of Ireland as their cultural hinterland.

RTE, the Irish television authority, gets just a little jealous of the all-Irish programmes they do, Mr Taylor remarks.

"I had a letter the other day from the playwright, David Rudkin, asking to do a play for us, and that is being set



A contemporary sketch of the Life Brigade at work as fishing boats are driven ashore in the great gales

## Great sea disaster struck 100 years ago today

By Ronald Faux

The great gale that swept the east coast of Britain a hundred years ago today took 189 fishermen to their deaths, 129 of them from the small fishing port of Eyemouth on the Berwickshire coast. The tragedy is considered the worst in the history of an industry which even today pays a heavy price in lives. Eyemouth still earns its living from the sea but the disaster on October 14, 1881, left a scar from which the community never recovered.

The Times reported the terrible misery which the "unprecedented hurricane" wrought on the east coast of Scotland leaving 100 widows in Eyemouth alone and 302 children orphaned. Many of the boats

were engulfed within 50 yards of the harbour mouth under the eyes of the families of those manning them who were powerless to give help in the raging seas breaking against the Eyemouth shore.

More than 31 boats were lost from the village and its neighbours leaving many families and old folk unprotected for a fund was launched with a target of £20,000 and headed by a £100 donation from the Queen. The local fishmongers company, according to The Times report, donated £32 10s.

Today a memorial to the men who died stands on the seaford at Eyemouth. It is topped by a broken mast in stone. A group of women from the district is working on a

large tapestry which will carry the names of all the men who perished in the disaster. When completed, the separate pieces will be sewn together and occupy a wall in the Seafaring and Fisheries Museum in the town.

The Eyemouth fleet, with boats from other ports on the north-east coast of England and the Forth, were out catching herring.

The chief single maritime disaster recorded that day was the loss of the Clan Macduff, which went down in the Irish Sea. The vessel had set out for Bombay but struck the ferocious seas that quickly overwhelmed her. Of the 19 passengers on board seven were saved.

## NEW ULCER DRUG LAUNCHED

By Annabel Ferriman  
Health Services  
Correspondent

A new drug to treat stomach ulcers was launched yesterday by Glaxo, the British-based pharmaceuticals company, after a development programme costing between £30m and £40m. The company hopes to export it to 200 countries and to capture a significant share of the £950m world market in gastro-intestinal drugs.

The drug, ranitidine, will be marketed under the trade name Zantac and will cost 91p a day for treatment. The company claims it heals ulcers in 80 per cent of patients within four weeks. It is likely to be compared with the highly successful drug, cimetidine, launched in 1975 by Smith, Kline and French, which proved a breakthrough in the treatment of stomach ulcers.

Glaxo maintains that its drug is as effective as cimetidine and has fewer side effects. Its action is highly selective.

More than 9,000 patients in 20 countries have been treated in clinical trials of the drug. It works by blocking the action of histamine receptors in the stomach which secrete acid, a main factor in causing ulcers.

Dr Roy Pounder, consultant gastro-enterologist at the Royal Free Hospital, London, who was one of the first doctors in the world to use cimetidine, said yesterday: "Ranitidine is a slightly cleaner drug in terms of side effects at this stage of its development, but cimetidine has been used perhaps by 15 million patients in the past five years; so a lot more is known about it."

## Docherty's transfer offer shocked me, player says

Dennis Law, the former Manchester United footballer, told the jury at the Central Criminal Court yesterday of his shock when Tommy Docherty, the manager, told him he was being given a free transfer.

Mr Law, now a sports commentator, recalled the occasion in 1973 for the jury hearing the case in which Mr Docherty, aged 53, denies two charges of perjury.

"It came as a great shock," he said. "I had been at Manchester United for 11 years and certainly wanted to finish there." His contract had a year to run.

"The thought of a free transfer had never entered my head," he told the jury. The news came at a bad time: his wife was pregnant and he was moving house.

His testimonial match was scheduled for the beginning of the next season and he felt a better solution would be to announce his retirement on that night. "It was a way out for the club, and certainly an honourable way out for me."

Mr Docherty is alleged to

## Woman who threw paint at Cardinal is jailed

An Irish woman who threw a tin of red paint at Cardinal Basil Hume was imprisoned for three months yesterday. It was learnt that she had thrown red paint to induce the cardinal to resign from the House of Commons two years ago.

In a letter to the court, Cardinal Hume, Archbishop of Westminster and leader of Britain's Roman Catholics, asked that Mrs Jean Costello should not be punished for what she had done because

she needed help. But Judge Bolland, sitting at Knightsbridge, told her he had no choice but to send her to prison for two months and to activate a one-month suspended sentence for the offence in Parliament.

Mrs Costello, aged 45, a secretary of Sotheby Road, Highbury, north London, pleaded not guilty, "because of lawful cause, to damaging the Cardinal's robes, his chauffeur's clothes, and a church carpet."

## 'Bribe' detective jailed

A former Metropolitan Police detective and a businessman were thoroughly dishonest men, a Knightsbridge judge said yesterday, when he imprisoned them for corruptly giving £2,800 to a senior police officer to induce him to return drugs and cash seized in a police raid.

The two, Richard Humphreys, aged 57, of Alconbury Weston, Cambridgeshire, and Sidney Cohen, aged 42, of 10, Wallace Court, Old Marylebone Road, London, were arrested at Mr Cohen's home while handing over the cash, the court heard. Both denied the charge, saying they had set up the bribe to catch corrupt police officers.

Sentencing Humphreys, who had served in the police for 27 years, to 12 months and Cohen to nine months, Judge Morton told them: "I have formed the opinion there is little merit in either of you. Humphreys is a disgrace to the force in which he served."

## Top-grade Whitehall cuts anger union

By Peter Hennessy

The union representing senior civil servants has sent a sharply worded letter to the Civil Service Department about a Government plan, leaked in The Times on October 6, to thin out the top three ranks of the hierarchy on the basis of a report on the Whitehall chain of command of command undertaken by Sir Geoffrey Wardle, former second permanent secretary at the Department of the Environment.

Writing to Sir John Herberg, second permanent secretary at the CSD, Mr John Ward, general secretary of the Association of First Division Civil Servants, reminds him that the union was given a pledge last December that "subject to any overriding considerations of sensitivity or confidentiality, the relevant evidence and conclusions of the [Wardle] study would be made available to the trade unions before any final decisions were taken."

Mr Ward says he has received reports from his union branches that departments are reducing the number of posts in the so-called open structure, which embraces the top three grades, "simply by not replacing officers when they retire and farming out the work to those who remain, sometimes almost without warning."

The Times reported last week that the Government intends by April 1984, to achieve a 10 per cent cut in the 822 officials it inherited in the open structure in May, 1979. In addition, the report continued, the Prime Minister had approved a plan to reduce the ratio of permanent to deputy and under-secretaries to the proportion at which they stood in 1955 before the explosion in under-secretary posts that took place under the Wilson and Heath administrations.

## RUBIK BOOK COPY IS BANNED

Patrick Bossett, aged 13, the schoolboy who solved the Rubik's Cube puzzle and wrote a best-selling book about it, is losing royalties because his book is being pirated, the High Court was told yesterday.

Mr John Baldwin, his counsel, told Mr Justice Dillon that a cheap version of the book, on inferior paper and with a stapled spine, was being sold in London street markets.

The judge granted Patrick, of Lancaster Park, Richmond, Surrey, and Penguin Books, his publishers, an injunction against Mr Stephen Richard Johnson and Mr Tony Gillespie, who have been selling a "top version of You can do the Cube from a stall in The Cut, Waterloo, London."

## IN BRIEF

### New powers for Manx governor

Manx MP's, during their last session yesterday before the Isle of Man general election in November, were told that from November 1, assent to domestic legislation would be granted in Douglas by the island's Lieutenant Governor, instead of by the Queen in Privy Council.

The change, agreed with the British Government, is one of a series for which the island has fought, to take more control of its affairs.

### Invaders repelled

School heads in Gwent, South Wales, have banned pupils from visiting amusement arcades during school hours. Punishment for offenders will range from fines to detention or the cane. The County Council says that pupils have been playing truant to play space invaders. Firm action was needed.

### Bowled out

Firemen had to use a saw and screwdriver to free Dawn Stanley, aged 15, of Arnold, Nottingham, when her thumb became stuck in one of the bowls at a Nottingham bowling alley.

### Alan Minter fined

Alan Minter, aged 29, the former world middleweight boxing champion, was fined £23 by East Crinstead magistrates yesterday for speeding. Mr Minter, of Sealford Road, West Hoo, West Sussex, pleaded guilty. His licence was endorsed.

### Rent rebels' new jobs

Five of the 11 Clay Cross councillors in Derbyshire who were made bankrupt and disqualified from holding public office for refusing to raise council rents are back in the governing bodies of local schools. They include Graham and David Skinner, brothers of Mr Dennis Skinner, the Labour MP for Bolsover.

### Strangeways protest

Two men climbed a 300ft crane in Liverpool city centre yesterday to protest at the imprisonment of Mr Danny Vaughan, aged 25. Their brother, who is on hunger strike at Strangeways prison, Manchester, awaiting trial.

## The Rempoy Resource is having extra help when you need it

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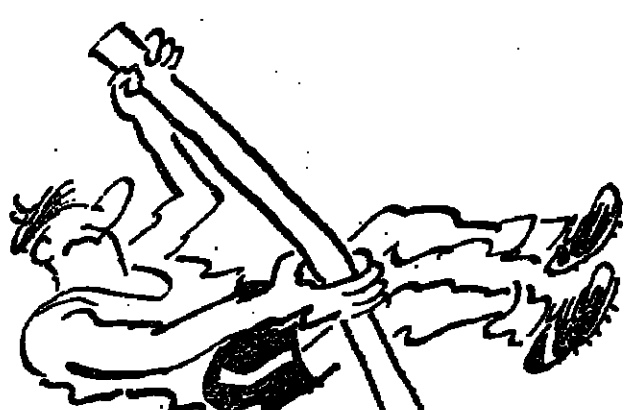
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## Rates poll campaign launched by councils

By Robin Young

All national newspapers carry full-page advertisements today placed by the Labour-controlled Association of Metropolitan Authorities. They herald a campaign against proposed legislation to require local authorities to raise supplementary rates.

So far, about half the association's 77 member authorities have each made voluntary contributions of £10,000 towards the cost. The National Council of Conservative-controlled councils has so far subscribed, and some have accused the association's leaders of using ratepayers' money to finance a party political campaign.

Mr Jack Smart, chairman of the association, said in London yesterday that he hoped all the member authorities would eventually support the campaign, which aimed to protect essential democratic freedom and the system of constitutional checks and balances.

"The Government's proposed laws are unprecedented in the power they will put in the hands of ministers", he claimed.

Most members felt they must take the unprecedented step of a public campaign. One of the advertisements says: "The idea (of the proposed legislation) is to take away your local authority's power to levy rates."

The campaign's opponents may complain to the Advertising Standards Authority that this claim is misleading.



Princess Anne conferring an honorary doctorate on Lord Charteris of Amisfield

## Princess installed as chancellor

Ramphel, Secretary-General of the Commonwealth.

One of Lord Charteris's first duties was to post the announcement of Princess Anne's birth on the gates of Clarence House, and one of his last for the birth of her son, Peter, Princess Anne said.

The Princess was the first member of the Royal Family to fight an open election for the post of Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, the title of which she held for 27 years and on Mr Shridath

Jones, former general secretary of the Transport and General Workers' Union.

□ Sir James Lighthill, Provost of University College, the oldest and largest of London University's institutions, announced yesterday in the presence of Princess Anne the public launching of the college's 150th anniversary appeal to raise £4m (our Education Correspondent writes). More than £500,000 has already been given.

## Man in £20m drugs trial 'was in secret service'

An Oxford graduate allegedly involved in a £20m drug smuggling operation told Customs investigators that he had been working for the British intelligence service since 1972, heard in the Central Criminal Court yesterday.

Dennis Howard Marks, aged 36, added: "My work is of a secret nature."

The jury was told that after his arrest at an hotel in May last year, Mr Marks was interrogated by Customs officers inquiring into the unloading of 15 tons of cannabis on to a remote island off the west coast of Scotland in December, 1972.

Mr Marks denied involvement in smuggling, dealing in cannabis or financing the operation.

He claimed he was working for D16, formerly M16, and was alleged to have added: "It is difficult to resist when you have been flattered into believing your country needs you."

Mr Marks, of Hans Road, Chelsea, and two other men, Morgan Prentiss, aged 41, a Californian yacht broker, and Hedley Morgan, aged 35, also an Oxford graduate, of Oaklands Avenue, Porters Bar, Hertfordshire, have pleaded not guilty to serious charges of evasion of the prohibition on

the importation of drugs and possessing drugs.

Mr Nicholas Baker, a Customs investigator, alleged that in conversations Mr Marks drew a distinction between cannabis and heroin and showed interest in the argument for the legalization of cannabis. He claimed Mr Marks said: "I smoke it now and again."

Mr Marks, who lives in a £500-a-week flat, was also charged with having said "no comment" when asked about how he earned a living.

Mr Baker told the jury that Mr Marks had said: "If you prove an association between me and a respectable charge I will plead guilty."

Lord Hutchinson of Lullington, QC, defending Mr Marks, asked if Mr Baker knew of members of drug smuggling teams giving information to the authorities and then being allowed to escape. That suggestion was "absolute nonsense", said the witness.

Lord Hutchinson said that in 1973 Mr Marks had been charged in relation to the importation of cannabis but had not answered to his bail. "The suggestion is that he was forcibly prevented from doing so and that he became a fugitive from justice," he said.

The trial continues today.

## TEACHERS SEEKING JOBS CODE

By Our Education Correspondent

Sharpened political conflict in society has led to political patronage and prejudice playing a greater part in the appointment and promotion of teachers, Dr Walter Roy, chairman of the National Union of Teachers' education committee, claimed yesterday.

"The splendid British tradition of tolerance and free thought that was once so admired is now at risk. That must be, and is, reflected in schools and in the way teachers are appointed", he said.

Dr Roy was speaking at a press conference in London to mark the publication of a proposed code of practice on the appointment, promotion and career development of teachers.

The code suggests that candidates for a teaching post should not be asked about their membership of, or attitude towards, any teacher organization; their political or religious beliefs (except in the case of appointment to denominational schools); or their willingness to take part in extra-curricular activities.

A fair way forward (National Union of Teachers, Rampton House, Mableton Place, London, WC1H 9BD, 49p).

## Survey finds that few are better off when sick

By Pat Healy, Social Services Correspondent

The first test of the claim that some employees are better off when they are sick rather than at work is provided in a survey of more than 300 companies published today.

The survey shows that only 11 per cent of employees are likely to be able to keep sick pay benefit on top of their full pay. Little more than one-third have inferior sick pay cover compared with that provided for white-collar workers.

The survey, carried out by the Metropolitan Pensions Association, is intended to help employers faced with renegotiation of existing sick pay schemes because of impending legislation transferring responsibility for sickness benefit from the national insurance scheme to employers.

One of the reasons advanced by the Government for making the change is that large numbers of employees are better off when they are on sick leave.

The Government proposals would make employers responsible for paying sickness benefits at a flat rate during the first eight weeks for almost all employees, including new starters. The survey shows that present practice varies widely between, and within, companies.

More than three-quarters of the schemes provided no sick pay for temporary employees, and 7 per cent of the companies surveyed provided no sick pay for at least one category of full-time permanent adult employees.

The survey covered 333 companies with a million employees, running a total of 494 different sick pay schemes. Survey of Sick Pay and Medical Benefits (MBA Ltd, Metropolitan House, Northgate, Chichester, Sussex PO19 1BE; £20).

so that any changes to the code could be implemented by March, when people would receive their main winter fuel bill.

The code of practice is intended to prevent fuel supplies being disconnected in cases of hardship, and particularly when there are young children or elderly people in the household. But there has been growing evidence that poor families and pensioners have been cut off in spite of the code's provisions.

The Institute's report, which is to be published today, was acknowledged by Mr Mellor to be critical, although he said it found in general that the fuel industries operated in accordance with the code of practice.

He was asking them to report back to him by next February.

Kingdom passport holders under the voucher scheme was a controlled rate.

Lord Avebury (L), supporting the amendment, said it would ensure that the criteria for the affected, who included British protected persons and British persons without citizenship, would have the right which would have enjoyed if they had been British citizens.

Lord Belstead, Under-Secretary of State for the Home Office, said that the amendment would confer the right of abode to people who were not British citizens and had not held the right to enter the United Kingdom to continue and exacerbate the confusion which existed between citizenship and the right of abode. The amendment would confer the right on newly-arrived people who could not be said to have had time for any close links with this country.

The Government had tried to go as far as possible in meeting the spirit behind the amendment. It had provided under a clause concerned with acquisition by registration an avenue of citizenship which was fair. There was a lot to be said for registration. It provided certainty and a formal status, which people would welcome.

The amendment was rejected by 114 votes to 77-Government majority, 37.

All attempt by Lord Pitt of Hamlyn (Lab) to provide a "safety net" for British overseas citizens who did not have a right of abode anywhere else, was rejected by 114 votes to 84-Government majority, 30.

He said that the vast majority of people who could be covered by British overseas citizenship had some right of abode somewhere. But there would be some who will not have a right of abode anywhere. The Government has a moral duty to these people.

Lord Belstead said the amendment would mean an immediate right of entry into this country of about 210,000 people who were at present subject to immigration control. They were not known to be in immediate jeopardy.

The Government was still committed to the special voucher scheme for some of these people—perhaps 70,000 in East Africa who had come from there to India. Even the admittance of India

Even the admittance of India

Even the admittance of India

Even the admittance of India

Even the admittance of India

Even the admittance of India

## Restored buildings to compete for awards

By John Young, Planning Reporter

The restoration and conversion of old buildings for commercial or industrial use is the theme of the 1982 conservation awards competition sponsored by The Times and the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors.

Eligible uses include manufacturing, warehousing, wholesaling, retailing, office, transport, mineral-working and agriculture. Recreational, ecclesiastical, educational, medical and residential buildings are excluded.

Improvements must have been completed between January 1, 1977, and December 31, 1981. The judges will pay particular attention to improved working conditions, the creation of additional employment, the restoration of buildings of architectural or historic interest, and the economics of the work involved.

The closing date for entries is February 23, 1982. Details and entry forms are obtainable from Miss Frances Armitage, Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors, 12 Great George Street, Parliament Square, London SW1P 3AD.

The 1982 competition is the twelfth in the series. An exhibition of the 1981 awards opened yesterday at 12 Great George Street and will remain on show until the end of this month.

## Tree Council chief calls for forestry strategy

By Our Planning Reporter

Tree planting in Britain should be greatly increased, for both economic and conservation reasons, a report published yesterday states.

World timber consumption is expected to increase by 80 per cent by the year 2000, and by 200 per cent by 2025, it says. At the same time, huge areas of forest are being cleared and turned over to agriculture, or left derelict.

For British tree consumption are lower: a 50 per cent increase by 2000, and 90 per cent by 2025. But only 8 per cent of the United Kingdom is woodland, compared with 30 per cent in most European countries.

Britain at present imports 92 per cent of its timber requirements, at a cost of £2,750m a year. Aside from the cost, a growing global shortage is likely to mean that in the next century, the country will be totally dependent on its own hardwoods, says the report.

Mr Derek Lovejoy, chairman of the Tree Council, says there are thousands of hectares of vacant land, most of it owned by public bodies, which would be enhanced by trees and at the same time contribute to the economy.

Who will plant oaks, page 15

From Tuesday's later editions

## No English, no benefits for Indian woman

Inability to understand English disqualified Mrs Fatimah Varachia, an Indian, from receiving state benefits. The Department of Health and Social Security has ruled that by failing to learn English she is hindering her chances of finding a job.

Her benefits from the department's Gloucester office were stopped a month ago and a supplementary benefits tribunal has upheld the decision.

Cutliffish key to jail smuggling attempt

A civilian instructor at Parkhurst prison, Isle of Wight, admitted that he smuggled cutliffish to a man serving a 25-year sentence so that an impression could be made on it of a master key.

Ronald Sumner, aged 49, of Stockport, was sentenced to four years' imprisonment. He also admitted smuggling vodka and tobacco into the prison.

It was stated that the cutliffish was found with the imprint of a pass key to the entire prison. Locks had to be changed at a cost of £10,000.

Government warned on car imports

Consumer organization leaders warned the Government that any attempt to stop the personal importing of cars would be a breach of the Treaty of Rome.

Mr Christopher Zealley, chairman of the Consumers' Association, and Mr Michael Shanks, chairman of the National Consumer Council, wrote jointly to Mr John Biffan, Secretary of State for Trade, with evidence that net-of-tax car prices abroad were consistently lower than in Britain.

Wales, Soc) said that what was at issue was immoral and illegal transfer pricing operated by multinational-international theft of money from national governments. The aim of transfer pricing was to avoid paying legitimately levied taxes in member states. Market traders paid rents to local councils for their stalls. It was not equitable to ask multinationals to pay taxes to countries where they operated.

Mr Christopher Jackson (East Kent Ed) moved an amendment to replace the motion with one recognizing the benefits conferred by multinationals but calling on the Commission strictly to enforce competition rules to prevent abuse.

It also supported establishment of a code on multinationals and said that the OECD guidelines were an important step towards establishing ground rules.

Herr Karl-Helmut Narjes, for the Commission, said that multinationals played a decisive role in economic welfare. He supported the Caborn report as a contribution by Parliament to dealing with the problem in an objective manner.

Community policies should not be a crusade against the multinationals but should contribute to creating a balanced framework for their activities in an economic climate in which industrial and social change was mastered. Multinationals should not be discriminated against because of their multinationality.

Mr Jackson's amendment was rejected by 105 votes to 70 and the motion was carried by 211 votes to 94 with seven abstentions.

Stock exchange talks proposed

The European Commission will be consulting a wide range of interests, including public authorities, investors and banks about the creation of new links between stock exchanges in the community, Mr Carlomagno Tugendhat, Vice-President of the Commission with budget responsibility, said in reply to a motion stressing the need to create a genuine European stock market by increasing interpretation of national markets.

## Nationality Bill change rejected

HOUSE OF LORDS

If a question arose about diplomatic protection that everyone of great importance that it should be clear which persons were British nationals on the international plane and which were not, Lord Ewings-Jones (Lab) said when the report stage of the British Nationality Bill was resumed.

He was welcoming from the Opposition front bench a new clause providing that everyone who under the Bill was a British citizen, a citizen of the British dependent territories or a British overseas citizen should have the status of a British national.

Lord Giddies (C), who moved the new clause, said he did so because the wide question of the status of nationality had not been defined within the Bill. This was an attempt to embrace all three categories of citizenship as defined in the Bill. It was a problem of national status for international purposes.

Lord Ewings-Jones said the new clause would simply affirm the undeniable fact that all the various categories of being British in this Bill had at least one thing in common. They all denoted persons who held British nationality in some degree or other.

To declare (he went on) that all the people mentioned in the new clause are British nationals would be for our own purposes a clarifying amendment. For international purposes it would be a declaratory one but one which would be of considerable value to those affected in relation to their dealings with the governments, immigration officials and authorities of other countries.

To pass the new clause would be an important affirmation to all those who were to be British under the Bill but were not to get the new British citizenship. It would be an affirmation of continuing

British responsibility and British citizenship. Under-Secretary of State, Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs, said the new description "citizen of the British dependent territories" was clear and unambiguous. The Government would explain fully to other countries the new citizenship titles and their meaning.

He said the difficulties with the new clause. It was particularly unfortunate that it would cover many people not only subject to British nationality control but also holding other citizenships. The additional words would serve only to generate confusion, blur the distinction between the new categories of citizenship, and, worst of all perhaps, raise expectations among the less well-informed which could not in the event be realized.

Lord Ewings-Jones (Lab), for people of the world over would feel doubt and uncertainty as a result of this legislation, and would feel comforted and more secure if the amendment was carried.

There was not the slightest danger or possibility of the five million people in Hong Kong, or any percentage of them, availing themselves of any gap that might be made in the legislation. But the people of Hong Kong feared something might be done which would have evil and disastrous consequences for them. No one wished to see Hong Kong, or any part of the world, weakened; any this was the purpose of the amendment.

A definition of nationality was necessary for the purposes connected with the EEC; and as far as the world was concerned. The case had been made out overwhelmingly for a declaration to the whole world that the citizens contained in the Bill were British nationals.

The amendment was rejected by 102 votes to 102, Government majority, three.

Lady Kirk, for the Opposition, moved an amendment to end what she described as an absurd anomaly in the Bill—that certain British passport holders who had been admitted for permanent settlement in the United Kingdom, but who were not living permanently here, were not to have a right of abode in the United Kingdom.

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# What is Whitehall up to behind your back?

There's some very worrying legislation about to creep in and out of Parliament.

The idea is to take away your Local Authority's power to levy rates.

If you hate rates (and who doesn't), you could be fooled into believing it's good news. That's what Whitehall is relying on.

But think. Without money your council is without power.

It can't make decisions. It can't go against Whitehall.

Even if you want it to on certain issues. That's the value of your local council.

It can check excessive control of local affairs by any Government.

Remember, after a general election the Government doesn't have to be nice for five years.

When you come to us with your problems our hands will be tied.

You'll come up against this innocent looking law. And like all laws, just try arguing with it.

It won't matter if your local councillor knows the roads are bad (he lives there too).

It won't matter if the local school is closing down (he'll probably have children there).

It won't matter if the old people's home is overcrowded.

There will be no point appealing to us.

No point in attending council meetings.

As things are, our doors are open.

Whitehall's will stay closed.

The Government want you to believe they're only going to control your rates.

But make no mistake.

They're going behind your back. Soon you won't have any hand in your own affairs.

Don't be whitewashed by Whitehall, keep it local.

**KEEP IT  
local**



## Conservative Party Conference 1/ Opening day at Blackpool brings challenge to Government team



The Conservative Party's political heavyweights on the opening day of the party's conference. From left, Mrs Thatcher, Michael Heseltine, James Prior, Sir George Young, Lord Gowrie and William Whitelaw. (Pictures: Bill Warhurst)

## Law and order

## Demands to bring back hanging a blow to Whitelaw's policies

Reports from Alan Wood, Bernard Withers, Geoffrey Browning, Sara Bonner and Tony Hodges.

The Conservative Party Conference on its opening day in Blackpool yesterday rejected a motion on law and order amid enthusiastic calls for the reintroduction of capital and corporal punishment.

Loud applause greeted the demand from Mr Brian Silvester, of Crewe, for capital and corporal punishment and a three-line whip in the Commons when it was debated there in the next parliament.

Mr William Whitelaw, the Home Secretary, said he understood the strong feeling and the message must be clear to MPs. When the matter was debated in Parliament the motion to restore it was heavily defeated.

What he found surprising was that it should be suggested that in some ways MPs should be coerced. If the Conservative Party was to go down this road it would be rather extreme at the same time to say how wicked it was that the left wing of the Labour Party should be doing exactly the same thing.

Mr Silvester said that 34 out of 182 resolutions on law and order called for such a referendum or a referendum on the subject. By picking a vague motion the conference organizers were trying to dodge the real issues. "We should not let them do that," he said. "There is no doubt the electorate want these harsher penalties. The result of a referendum on this issue is a foregone conclusion."

Mr Silvester said that in July, 1979, the new House of Commons had a free vote on capital punishment and it was no end. If all Conservative MPs had voted for it, the country would have capital punishment now. But some Tory MPs put their consciences before their electors and before the wishes of the party.

He would not cast lightly aside the consciences of MPs who voted against capital punishment, but what was more important—the maintenance of law and order or the consciences of some Tory MPs?

"If we as ordinary party members are ever going to get our wishes implemented," he

said, "we must go further than just speaking at conference and then being ignored. We must insist our views are acted upon. In our manifesto for the next election we should again state that we would have an early vote on capital and corporal punishment but that this time we would have a three line whip on the vote."

Mr Whitelaw said the Conservative Party is the only political party that can deliver. He was loudly applauded all the way back to his seat.

The motion, rejected by the conference, stated that while appreciating the steps already taken to assist the police with the enforcement of law and order, it deplored the outbreaks of aggravated violence against society and called on the Government to provide the police and the courts with powers to enable them to maintain the order and moral standards which the citizens of this country were entitled to expect.

Moving it, Mr Anthony Bell, Teesside, Thornaby, called for more discipline, whether self-imposed or enforced, in the home, at schools, at work and on the streets. There must be increased efficiency by the police in solving crime.

They must protect the victims of crime from sensationalism and cheque book journalism. They must lower standards in "our academies of crime" by reducing the overcrowding in prisons. They must have stiff, more purposeful penalties for crimes of violence.

Mr Joyce Bowley, Sutton and Cheam, chairman of the Greater London Area Women's Advisory Committee, called for more support and understanding for the police force which was the best in the world. Not enough had been done to support them.

Mr Mike Truman, Brentford, who attacked racism in the police and in the Conservative Party, was booed by a large

number of representatives. In a rebuff to the booing he shouted: "If you want to support racist policies join a party that supports them because you are not Conservatives."

He said that unemployed young blacks felt they were unwanted and reacted by fighting the most obvious symbol, the police. The police could not have to escape suspicion until the complaints procedure was truly independent. A substantial number of police recruits had racist views which were not always eradicated by training.

Mr Truman said: "I do not think any Conservative who supports the National Front policy of repatriation can remain a member of this party which supports a policy for all citizens, whatever their colour, under the rule of law."

Mr Shakti Hussain, Manchester, said he did not know how they could expect the police to do a dangerous and difficult job without the proper tools and equipment and legislative powers. For loonies and leeches only interested in anarchy and dictatorship he would suggest a one way ticket to Russia.

Mr Edwin Currie, Birmingham, a member of the parole board of Winston Green Prison, strongly criticised the Bail Act. Holding up a pair of handcuffs, he said they should allow the police to put these on criminals and leave them on.

The police caught men and women, took them to court and they were given bail and told to go home. It might be a year before they came to trial and she had seen from prison records what happened when people were on bail.

Conditions in prison were a scandal and the police had a most unpleasant and dangerous job.

Mr John Chaffield, South East Area, said it was essential to retain the constitutional balance between central and local government and chief constables of the police forces. There was no need for a national police force which would be the way to the police state and ultimately to the political control of the police.

Mr Whitelaw replying to the debate, said he did not resent criticisms and the arguments advanced as he had to find the right balance in the interests of all of the people.

The grave events of the summer demonstrated the nation was right to stress the duty of Conservatives to give wholehearted support, not only to the forces which upheld the law, but to well-kept moral standards and values which had been the firm foundation of respect for the rule of law.

It was obvious to people outside that the Conservative Party gave unequivocal support to the rule of law and maintenance of order so crucial to the maintenance of their free society.

Improving police pay had played a major part in the marked improvement in the quality and number of applicants to join. Since the election the English and Welsh police forces had grown by 7,000 officers. Almost all forces were up to strength.

Much had been said about the causes of the violent disorders of the summer, but it would be wise to wait for the final report of Lord Scarman on the riots and causes.

There could be no excuse for law breaking of this type and people who tried to make such excuses were engaged in the undermining of our society.

In the face of such disorders, it was his duty to provide for the protection of property and people. The immediate burden fell on chief constables, but the Government had to ensure they had the right equipment for the job. The police had proper protective clothing which enabled them to adopt more positive tactics to break up violent groups. In the last resort they could use water cannons, batons and CS gas. It would be a tragic moment for this country if they had to bring soldiers on to the streets.

There might be occasions when the police could be criticized, but nothing could justify generalized sneers from a small, but vociferous section of society.

It was remarkable how the determination of their attacks

was matched only by their eagerness to gain the political control of the force for their own ends.

Under a Conservative Government, there would be no political direction of the police.

As well as the role of the police it was also necessary to consider what became of those who broke the law when they were caught. The sad truth was that the grim reality of life in overcrowded Victorian prisons imposed great strains on prison staff who did a remarkable job in difficult circumstances.

It would be hypocrisy to suggest that constructive standards of custodial treatment—or even human decency—can be maintained in such conditions," he said. "Yet these conditions are still worsening, old prisons deteriorate day by day and the prison population rises. Last summer it approached 46,000 and could easily do so again by the spring."

The problem had been a major one since he became Home Secretary. There were those who spoke of "bricks and mortar" who suggested the answer was to build more prisons. It was a pity they had not preached this message during the last 50 years, he said, for no purpose-built prison or Borel had been built between 1918 and 1958.

We are building prisons. In the next few years we plan to make starts on the construction of seven new prisons. At the same time we are having to spend almost £20m per year on the maintenance of existing prisons. Our programme to develop existing prisons over the next decade will cost around £360m at current prices.

"I am told to go back to bricks and mortar. There is the answer, that I have heard," he said.

He could not assure the conference that the steps would in themselves release pressure on the prison system because so many of the old Victorian prisons were falling down.

The question to ask was whether prison, which cost £7,000 a year per prisoner, was in every case the most effective way of preventing re-offending by less serious offenders. Such people should expect to be locked away in prison for a lengthy period as a punishment and for the protection of society.

The courts had the power to do this and what might not be appreciated was that they used it. There were 1,500 prisoners serving more than four years for burglary and robbery and some were serving life sentences for these offences.

"It is the prospect of likely capture by an efficient police force and of lengthy imprisonment after sentence that will—before anything else—deter the hard-headed professional criminal," he said.

The Government had opened 30 new attendance centres for young hooligans. He was convinced the conference was right to support the short, sharp shock regime experiment in detention centres, which because of its success, had recently been extended to further centres.

"We should not use our prisons simply as dustbins for such offenders without any thought of how they are to be reformed. There is no evidence that for the lesser offenders longer prison sentences are any more effective than shorter ones in preventing reoffending after release."

The Government wanted to give the courts greater control over what happened to young offenders after conviction. This could be done by widening the range of custodial and non-custodial sentences at the courts' disposal.

Restrictions placed on prison sentences for young adult offenders by the Criminal Justice Act of 1961 would be removed, he said. In its place would be a single, determinate custodial sentence to be called youth custody, this would take the place of the existing Borstal and prison sentences for young people.

## Education

## Cuts that threaten not fat, but bone

A warning that cuts in education had not just cut through the fat but threatened the bone, was made by Sir William van Straubenzee, a former under secretary for education and science in Mr Edward Heath's government. During the education debate, Sir William, who is also a former Conservative spokesman on education, counselled Sir Keith Joseph, the new Secretary of State for Education and Science, not to push too far.

To cheer he said: "Many of us in politics are not servants to theory. That is a profoundly unconservative thing to be. We are in politics because we serve a compassionate party caring for the widest group of people and deeply caring for our young."

Sir William, MP for Wokingham, said Sir Keith had responsibility entrusted to him and he should take the pulse of the party as he made his decisions.

Sir Keith, replying to the debate, said the importance of the party attached to good education for all the country's children was not at issue.

There was widespread concern about standards in many parts of the comprehensive system. This concern was not only about academic standards but also, in some parts of the country, about behaviour, discipline and work habits. Since more than 85 per cent of secondary pupils were now in comprehensive schools, they must take account of this anxiety. It was true resources for education in real terms were being curtailed although expenditure had still been rising. The fall in real resources for education was substantially less than the fall in the number of pupils going through the schools.



Sir Keith Joseph—shot across his bows.

The state should not be the only provider of schools. The right of parents to pay even with sacrifices, for their children's education on the one hand, and the existence of independent schools on the other, were twin parts of a free society. (Applause). It was vital to remember that the state should not centralize all power.

"I have been intellectually attracted to the idea of seeing whether eventually vouchers might be a way of increasing parental choice even further. I know that there are great difficulties in making a voucher deliver in a way that would commend itself to us more choice than the 1980 Act will deliver. It is now up to the advocates of such a possibility to study the difficulties, and see whether they can develop proposals which would cope with them."

A further year at school for those who wished to sit a 17-plus examination geared to a free vocational curriculum had been suggested, he said, and it was hoped before long to publish the government's views on such steps.

Building on that initiative, he said, the government were now considering a similar shift in the curriculum in the 14-16 year age group. Not only would such children benefit from a more vocational emphasis in the curriculum, he said, but it might also take out some of the boredom that flowed from an unsatisfactory curriculum among the non-academic and so reduce instances of truancy and disruption.

The amendment was carried. The debates tomorrow will be on motions on free enterprise and industry, food and farming, rating reform, economic policy and taxation, defence and race relations.

## Ulster

## Better economic links with Eire is Prior's priority

Mr James Prior, the new Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, pledged that the Government would wage the battle against terrorism from any source with unremitting vigour.

In a speech warmly received by the conference, Mr Prior said the end of the recent hunger strike allowed the search for peace and stability to continue. It marked yet one more chapter written in the blood of wasted lives.

He called for improved economic links between Northern Ireland and the Irish Republic as the chief priority. By a substantial majority, the conference passed a motion congratulating the security forces on their resolution and courage in combating terrorism as crime under the law. It noted with approval the Government's refusal to differentiate between different types of crime.

The resolution also stated that the return to peace and stability to Northern Ireland would be greatly assisted by the establishment of a new forum where representatives of local people could consider matters of most concern to all sections of the Northern Ireland population.

Dr Brian Mawhinney, MP for Peterborough, in moving the resolution, said that during the recent hunger strike, 10 convicted terrorists committed suicide and 64 other people were killed. For humanitarian reasons he welcomed the ending of the strike and regretted the deaths. For the same reasons, he said, the Government should not be weakened, they called on the IRA to stop the killing and bombing now.

Political motivation did not transform a terrorist into a freedom fighter. The IRA had said that the hunger strike was a political statement. The IRA had said that the hunger strike was a political statement. The IRA had said that the hunger strike was a political statement.

The long-term problems of Northern Ireland could not be solved by the security forces alone. The two communities must seek some political compromise. Mr Prior said the Government would be imposing by London or Dublin, either separately or together. There was no evidence that an independent Ulster was viable or supported.

An assembly would speak for all the Ulster people and be a focus for allegiances and create the right political environment for change. It meant enabling the moderate and legitimate leadership of the minority community to reestablish and reassert itself.

They must reassure the majority that their British citizenship was not in question nor would it be for so long as it wished. The Unionists must also be told that British patience was not inexhaustible.

It was disgraceful that the IRA could cross the border to kill and bomb and then return to sanctuary in the south. While the new Prime Minister, Dr Margaret Thatcher, had indicated a willingness to change the Irish constitution, he should start by extraditing the terrorists.

Mr Hazel Bradford, an Ulster Unionist councillor, said the British way of life was under threat not only in Ulster but throughout the United Kingdom with IRA campaigns.

They must support the Prime Minister totally in her stand against moral blackmail. There were three essentials for the return of peace and normality. There must be continued unqualified support by the Government for the principle that

Northern Ireland would remain British. As a matter of urgency, the Dublin Government must give up its territorial claim to part of the United Kingdom.

Dublin must extradite terrorists instead of refusing on the grounds the crimes were political.

Mr Michael Baker, a local government officer from Lewis, said any new forum of local government in Northern Ireland was doomed to failure. It had been tried before and there was no prospect of the Catholic minority allowing the Protestant majority a share in running things. A long-term solution would probably involve the whole of Ireland, Britain, Europe, and some politicians sticking their necks out and biting the bullet.

Mr David Hudson, Norfolk North, said terrorist organizations operating sometimes in cell structures were notoriously difficult to defeat, but the security forces had done this magnificently. They looked to Dublin now for a policy to pursue and prosecute terrorists within the borders of the republic.

Sir John Biggs-Davison, MP for Epping Forest, said the trouble with any proposal for the Northern Ireland from the rest of the United Kingdom was that it revived the flagging terrorists' hopes that the British could be bombed or bored out of Ireland.

Mr Stephen Day, Ripon, said the Government was to be congratulated on refusing to grant political status to the hunger strikers, but unfortunately last week's announcement of concessions had undermined their strength and granted the terrorist prisoners much of what they wanted. Mr Prior's honour and good will was wasted on such men.

Mr Edgar Graham, of the Ulster Unionist Council, said up to the end of September, the level of violence this year was 23 per cent less than last year's figure. In this horrifying situation, the people of Ulster had taken great heart at the firmness and resolution which the Prime Minister showed in the face of the hunger strike.

It is a real tonic to have a Prime Minister who is at last prepared to stand up to the IRA," he said. "The current IRA campaign has thrived on one concession after another from British governments. We hope that there will be no more concessions to the IRA."

Mr Prior said the conference last debated Northern Ireland five years ago. These had been five long and bitter years for many families and for the province as a whole. He had suffered as a result of violence.

"We have suffered a grievous loss ourselves through the assassination of Airey Neave," he said. "We have had a grim and horrendous reminder of violence in that dastardly attack last Saturday. The whole province has suffered deaths across the community and young soldiers have died."

Throughout the United Kingdom, throughout the wider world where the Government's case had been so misrepresented and misunderstood, people would be watching the conference and listening to how the Government was going to tackle the basic problems involved.

No concessions had been made to the IRA. There would be certainly no perpetration of anything which looked like concession to those who committed violence, Mr Prior said.

The end of the hunger strike allowed the search for peace and stability. It marked yet one more chapter written in the blood of wasted lives in prison where there were deaths, there was to be no political status, he said.

Peace and stability must be a pre-requisite for progress in any nation. In Northern Ireland above all, political advance and economic recovery must go hand in hand. Poverty, lack of work, a sense of despair born out of setbacks and tiredness, all combine to increase the bitterness to feed the prejudices.

The brutal fact is that our investment prospects will remain poor until we have demonstrated that violence and unrest are steadily diminishing and that accommodation between the two communities is on the increase. The relation of both to the republic is also important here," he said.

"There could be great benefit from more cross border economic cooperation. This should be pursued openly and frankly with the full involvement of the community in the north. It is for these purposes that visits between north and south at ministerial level, and at other levels, should be regularly and openly undertaken."

There were many differing, forceful and articulate views about what was best for the province and Mr Prior said it was his job at the present stage, to listen. He had tried to make two straightforward points. First, that unless there was less political formation and more practical co-operation between the two communities, the IRA would continue to slide as the image of Northern Ireland gave no confidence. Second, and equally important, that the interest of Great Britain had to be attended to as well.

"The British people will always stand against terrorism and violence. They will stand by the desire of the majority in Northern Ireland to retain their United Kingdom connection, to seek to get on with each other, to get on with their close neighbours in the republic and to get on with the job of healing and reconstruction."

"It would be, I believe, a serious misjudgment of the mood of the British people to assume that sympathy for the victims of violence extends to an acceptance of endless bickering and squabbling about day to day matters by both communities. I believe that with most, if not all, that strikes a chord. We should have to try to recreate political responsibility," he said.

There was bound to be frustration when no Northern Ireland politicians could run anything more important than a swimming pool or the refuse collection. It was the case at the moment. There were risks in doing anything, but just as emphatically there were risks in doing nothing.

"I do not believe at the moment it would be right to push ahead with the proposed Northern Ireland council, but I do believe that we have to find a new momentum and to sustain it. The ending of the hunger strike, the plight of the economy, the question of violence, dictate that we have to act."

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## Conservative Party Conference 2/ Prophetic warning about the Tories' future from Norman St John Stevas

# 'Let us free ourselves from the carcasses of dead policies and the ignorant pride of a fatal consistency'

The following are extracts from a speech given by Mr Norman St John Stevas, MP for Chelmsford, at a meeting in Blackpool yesterday.

This year, as the political skies around us darken and the dangers deepen I once again raise my voice in prophetic warning about the courses we must follow if we are to avoid what I increasingly fear could be an electoral catastrophe. . . . The first point is this: British politics is the centre ground that is vital. Those who occupy it win elections, those who vacate it or appear to do so lose them. It is because our party has never for long lost sight of this efficient truth that we have remained for so long a party of government's a party unique in European, or for that matter in American, experience which dares to glory in the name Conservative and which has nevertheless won the majority of elections which have taken place over the last 100 years. The centre ground is not determinant in other European countries. . . . It is no accident that the fiercest proponents of monetarist theories have been academics from universities either on the Continent or from the United States.

And what is all this verbal sparring about "consensus" and "conviction" politicians? Are not those who believe in liberalism, moderation and compassion in politics as convinced of their value as those who believe in the "brutalitarianism" as Disraeli branded them? . . . The second principle to subordinate politics to economics and within that tradition to select a single economic end, the abatement of inflation, as the one to be pursued regardless of all other values and considerations, is not only to turn politics into a gamble on ground which since the war has been marked not by success but failure, but even worse it is to subscribe to a false and distorted view of human nature. . . . Who would have thought that we could live to see the day when economic materialism could deck itself out in Tory colours and claim to be not only the authentic voice of Conservatism but its only legitimate manifestation, yet this is precisely the theme of what has been arrogantly styled "The New Conservatism". Nothing, wrote Walter Bagehot, is so unpleasant "as a virtuous person with a mean mind". How applicable that sentiment is to the economic monetarism of our own time. . . .

The third truth which no Tory should ever lose sight of is that politics is about people of flesh, not about bloodless and impossible abstractions but about men and women who are at one and the same time virtuous, flawed, imperfect, aspiring and struggling. Of course the talented must be encouraged to develop their talents but the talents themselves, like beauty or inherited wealth, are given not earned. . . . This is the country where the natural virtues still flourish even if the supernatural ones appear temporarily to have withered away. Britain is the country of compassion and concern where no charitable appeal goes unheard, where care of neighbour, relief of suffering, help to others, are the warp and woof of our daily lives. There is in our country an extended moral constituency made up of citizens who look to public life not for what they can get out of it but for what they can contribute, who will that the quality of life be improved, who care about the health, employment and wellbeing of their fellow who want to see our hospitals and schools improved and who are proud of our arts flourish. . . .

There is one particular sign of the times which we ignore at our peril and that is the growing gap between the Churches and the Conservative Party. It used to be said satirically that the Church of England was the Tory Party at prayer: how badly that joke would misfire today. What have the aridities of monetarism to say to the moral conscience of this nation and its great contemporary interpreters Archbishop Runcie, or Cardinal Hume or the never to be forgotten Barbara Ward? I used the word advisedly that we could face an electoral catastrophe: let me spell out what I mean. The British people will not vote for an extremist party whatever its political hue. This means that the present Labour Party will find it virtually impossible to win the next general election. The old constitutional and moderate Labour Party is deadlier than the

dodo. Whatever the cosmetic cover up at Brighton last month the fratricidal war amongst the band of brothers will continue. . . . At the very moment when the Labour Party is in fact turning itself into an extremist organization we have contrived to make ourselves appear to be marching to a similar dead end. The only conceivable beneficiaries of this grotesque situation must be the alliance of Liberals and Social Democrats which is heading for the centre ground and offering a soft option to those disinclined to make hard choices. . . . The next 12 months are the crucial ones in which we can pull our party round and through. There is no question of changing our leader: Margaret Thatcher is the only person of the calibre to carry the confidence of the parliamentary party but her courage and resolution still command admiration even amongst those who reject her policies or who have reservations about them. It is not a question either of executing a humiliating U-turn, that ignis fatuus, whose baleful glare seems to deprive some people of all sense of proportion, reality and flexibility. What is needed is a modification of policies to take account of changed circumstances since we came to office, namely the deepening world recession, the unprecedentedly high American interest rates, and above all the dreadful surge of unemployment. . . .

I now put forward my suggestions as a six-point charter for the future. Let me begin in terms of disloyalty or faction: there is such a thing as loyal dissent and what we must have in the party is a period of open debate, not in code but in language which everyone can understand. . . .

First, we need a change of tone—we must show by our words as well as our deeds the generosity, compassion and concern which we do in fact feel: the idealism of our party must be on display. The Government must be flexible and show itself to be willing and able to modify policies according to changing circumstances and need. As the great Lord Salisbury maintained: "The commonest error in politics is sticking to the carcasses of dead policies." Let us free ourselves also of what Macaulay signified as "the ignorant pride of a fatal consistency". . . . Second, we must make a comprehensive and national approach to the problems which confront us. Margaret must draw the different bodies of opinion within the party closer together not drive them further apart. The foolish advice given to her by sections of the press, including I regret to say the once sagacious Economist, to try and construct a cabinet of only one point of view has already proved damagingly counter productive. The Tory Party is a Church not a sect and a Broad Church at that, not a community of saints following a Messianic vision. In the country we must draw upon our tradition as the party of the nation and make it our first aim of policy to bridge the gulf between north and south. We must seek to associate our policies, as President Reagan has done so successfully in the United States, with the patriotic feelings of the nation as a whole. The monarchy in our constitution is the great unifying force but that reconciling and healing spirit should be drawn on more directly in our political life. . . .

Third, we must recognize unemployment for what it is—a moral and social evil of the first order. Its reduction must now become our primary purpose: if we say we can do nothing about it we will soon be pushed aside by those who will. Let us have some sense of outrage at this conference about the truly horrific unemployment figures which deny man a fundamental dignity, the right to work, and less of what is becoming callous chatter about a leaner, fitter British industry. . . . Fourth, we must address ourselves effectively to the issues of nuclear war and of world hunger. Where nuclear weapons are concerned we must recognize that public anxiety about safety and destruction is now world wide: it is very much more than the hapless Michael Foot reliving the triumphs of his youth. It is as though there is welling up in the human consciousness a foreboding of some cataclysm to come. The moral imperative is not unilateral disarmament but the urgent seeking of multilateral agreements both for the scaling down of these frightful weapons and their non-proliferation. . . .

Fifth, we must show the country that we have something to say and something to offer on social as well as on economic issues. Here our theme should be the preservation and strengthening of the family. The maintenance, development and extension of child benefit provides the key to the future, and we must include without the parameters of our concern the one-parent family, one of the fastest growing and most needy social groupings of our time. . . .

Sixth, let us look to our institutions which it was Disraeli's counsel that we should preserve. We have already reformed the Commons by setting up a committee system which has done much to redress the balance between Westminster and Whitehall. Let us follow this up by entrenching and reforming the Upper

House, now under a deadly challenge from the left, and which this conference, rightly made plain last year it wanted maintained, and transformed. Let us reassert our historic support for the independence and autonomy of local government. It would be strange indeed if the Conservative Party were to espouse the socialist view that our country and borough councillors are mere agents of central government: it would never be forgiven if we destroyed their independence because we lacked the integrity and the will to abolish the unjust rating system and provide local government with a viable and autonomous means of financial support. . . .

Finally let me say this. No democratic government can survive without the trust, confidence, and support of the people. We will not succeed in our task unless we offer the nation vision and ideals for the future and we will not do that unless we communicate a sense of hope: hope that the sacrifices that have been made have been made to some purpose. . . .



Mr Heath . . . paramount among the 'wets'.

Mr James Prior denied yesterday that he was a secret supporter of Mr Edward Heath. Interviewed on ITN he said: "That's nonsense. Mr Heath has always been a great friend of mine. I have a very warm spot for him. But Mrs Thatcher is the present Prime Minister and leader of our party, and I am loyal to her." The Northern Ireland Secretary went on: "The fact is, that in a party as broad as the Conservative Party, and particularly at a time midway between elections, there is bound to be some dissension. Mr Heath is putting forward a view very strongly which is somewhat at odds with the line the government has been taking."

## Minister pledges return to status quo under Rent Act tenancies

The Government is to lay an order before Parliament next week designed to encourage shorthold lettings in the private rented sector of housing. Under the order, the compulsory requirement to register a fair rent before the start of a shorthold letting will, apart from the Greater London area, be lifted throughout England and Wales.

Mr John Stanley, Minister of Housing and Construction, announcing the move when he replied to the debate on homes, said that the Government considered the case for shorthold lettings was as strong as ever. Under the system, landlords get the certainty of repossession at the end of an agreed period which can be from a year to five years.

Mr Stanley, bitterly criticising the Labour Party who he said was deliberately seeking to wreck the system, made clear that the lifting of the compulsory requirement to register a fair rent before the start of a shorthold letting would not affect the rent of any existing tenant, nor would it affect the normal right of any tenant or landlord under the Rent Act to apply for a fair rent to be registered after a tenancy began.

He explained that the change would enable a shorthold tenancy to commence on the basis of a rent freely agreed between landlord and tenant without any involvement by the rent officer. He was sure the

change would be widely welcomed.

Mr Stanley said afterwards that it was impossible to judge what impact the change that he had announced would have but the change was based on the experience of shorthold since last December.

It amounted to restoring the status quo under Rent Act tenancies. Under other terms of tenancies there was not a requirement to register and it was possible for landlord and tenant to agree a rent with the right of either party to go to the rent officer.

"We think it will be a material encouragement to owners of houses and flats to make them available," he said. On this point he was replying to contentions during the debate that the country was not making best use of its housing stock.

Mr John Jenson, Woking, moved a motion which welcomed the continuing policy of encouraging home ownership by every possible means, but reminded the minister that there were certain specialist groups for whom rented accommodation would always be the most appropriate.

Councillor Patrick McLoughlin, Cannock, said that every member of the party had a duty to slam socialist authorities who were refusing to sell council houses. They should all go over to the attack.

Mr Stanley, who is MP for Tonbridge and Malling, said

that in terms of legal rights the Government had done more for those who rented in the public sector than any other government in the post-war period.

In the private sector, they had ended the scandal of controlled tenancies under which houses were having to be let at less than £1 a week. They had introduced assured tenancies under which houses newly built for renting could now be let at market rents and free from rent control. They had improved the rate of return for fair rents.

Turning to home ownership, Mr Stanley said that under the present Government the number of council houses where sale had already been completed was 160,000 and since the start of the right to buy a year ago, the number of tenants who had applied to buy was 400,000.

Ministers were under no illusions whatever about the way in which certain Labour councils had sought to obstruct the right to buy. In some authorities tenants had faced a range of devices to put them off from buying their homes. They had had to contend with a barrage of propaganda to why they should not buy.

However, the overwhelming majority of tenants had pressed on. Countryside arrangements for intervention had been made and were in place. There need be no doubt whatever about the ability or readiness of the Government to intervene.

Government action had not results in other authorities

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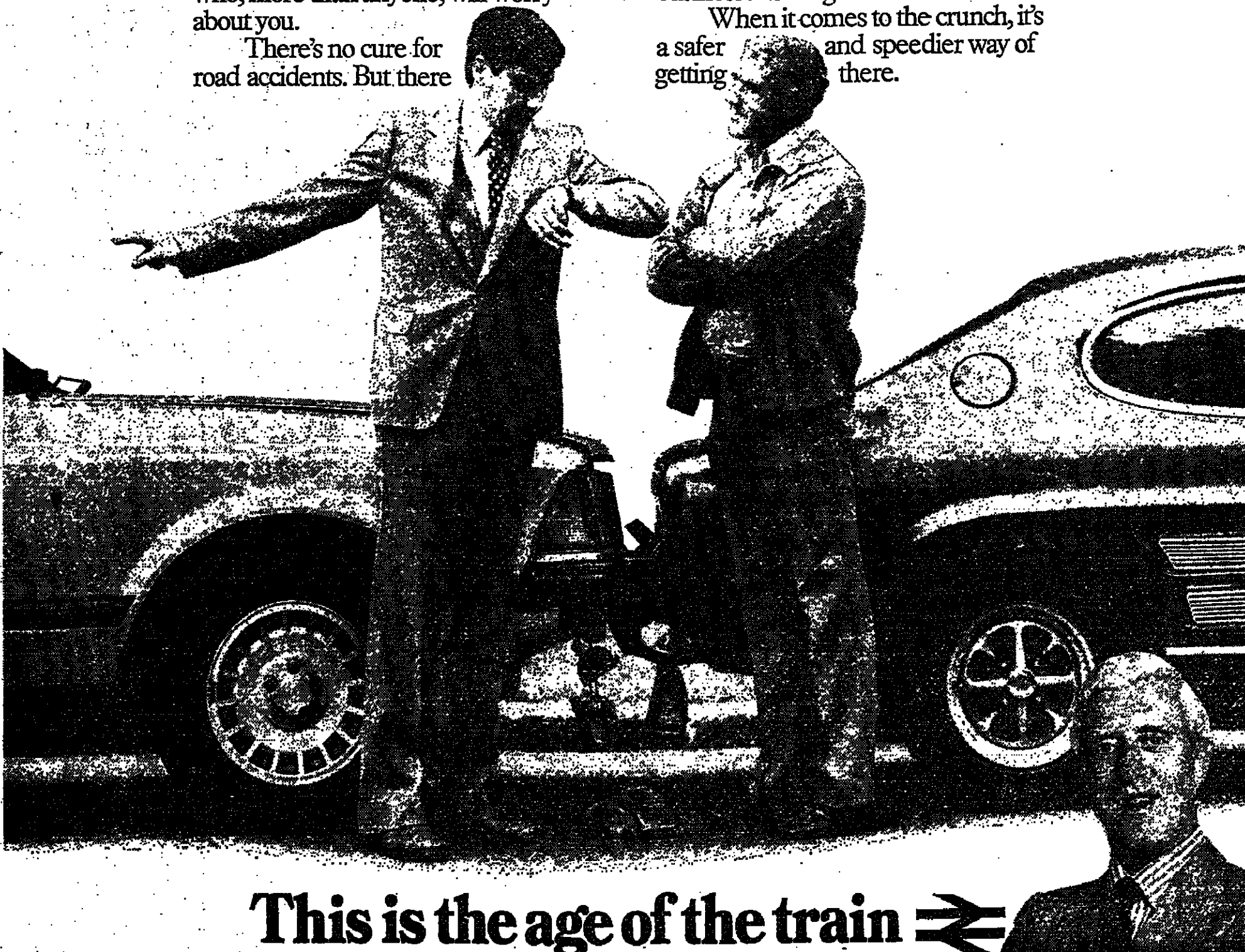
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The Middle East after Sadat

# Americans may send advisers to help Sudan

From Nicholas Hirst, Washington, Oct 13

As part of its plans to shore up the security of the Middle East against a growing Libyan threat after the assassination of President Sadat, the United States is considering sending advisers as well as speeding up arms deliveries to Sudan.

In an interview in the Beirut paper *Al Nahar* today, President Nimeiry of Sudan said he may launch a pre-emptive strike against Libya. There have already been border clashes with troops in Chad, where there is a Libyan force.

State Department officials were anxious today to play down the commitment to Sudan. President Nimeiry is quoted in the *Washington Post* as saying that Mr. Alexander Haig, the Secretary of State, had said it would defend his government against a Libyan attack.

Advisers could be sent with accelerated arms deliveries, a State Department spokesman said. Officials said there had been no change in the Sudan commitment and President Reagan said that while accelerated arms deliveries to Sudan and Egypt were called for, there was no question of any Americans being involved in fighting.

In a television interview Mr. Haig and Mr. Casper Weinberger, the Defence Secretary, said the United States stood by its allies in North Africa and the Middle East. Mr. Haig said

some accounts of American intentions had been somewhat over-drawn and Mr. Weinberger, asked if aid could involve a role for United States troops, replied: "None that I know of." Mr. Haig, however, expressed concern about a "step up in the character of Libyan trouble-making."

The United States plans military exercises in the Middle East next month. The *Washington Post* said today that they would involve Marine landings in Oman and Somalia and a practice raid, with live bombs, in which 852 bombers of the Strategic Air Command would fly from North Dakota to Egypt and back.

Slighting out Sudan, he appealed to "countries which may have designs" on Chad not to give shelter to opponents of his Government. He rejected reports that Libya planned to use its military force in Chad to invade Sudan.

President Reagan, reacting to the initiative by former President Carter and Ford on the Middle East peace process, has rejected talks with the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) until it recognizes Israel's right to exist.

Their initiative was welcomed by Mr. Yasser Arafat, the PLO leader. During a visit to Japan, he said it was very good that such a suggestion had been made.

## Nimeiry warns Libya

Continued from page 1

Tomorrow Mr. Nimeiry will address the Egyptian People's Assembly in an effort to reinforce close ties between Sudan and Egypt in the wake of Sadat's assassination. "I will ask the people to stand behind Hosni Mubarak," he explained.

Mr. Nimeiry claimed that Sudanese intelligence had recently uncovered evidence that Libya had set up 26 training camps inside the country to train guerrillas of different nationalities to wage terrorist campaigns abroad. He said that one of these was being used to train members of the IRA.

The President likened the situation inside Libya to that of South Yemen, with East Germany and other Eastern bloc countries providing a formidable internal security network. Among the countries whose nationals were being trained by Libya for subversion were Egypt, Sudan, Saudi Arabia and Tunisia.

"I am trying to carry the war inside Libya, it is a kind of active defence," he added. "If I find the camps, I am going to use some of the thousands of Sudanese workers inside Libya against them."

Mr. Nimeiry—who at the age of 51 has survived more than half a dozen attempted plots—claimed that 7,000 Sudanese workers had been imprisoned in Libya because of their refusal to be recruited into the War of subversion against Sudan. Many of these were soon to be airlifted back to Sudan, and the first aircraft load had recently arrived in Khartoum via Italy.

The President spoke enthusiastically about the results of his talks in Cairo last Sunday with Mr. Alexander Haig, the United States Secretary of State. He said he had been assured that \$130m (£72m) of promised military aid would now be provided in the next few months.

The package would include four F5 interceptors, jet aircraft to be used against Libya in western Sudan. In recent days Libyan aircraft had strafed two villages in the area and more attacks were now expected.



Luggage litters the tarmac around a Malta Airways jet at Cairo airport after the explosion of two bombs which had been carried from Tripoli in the aircraft's hold.

## Cairo blasts in Libya aircraft

From Christopher Walker, Cairo, Oct 13

Two bombs which had arrived on an aircraft from Libya exploded at the airport here today shortly after voting opened to confirm Mr. Hosni Mubarak, the Vice-President, as successor to Sadat. An airport worker and three policemen were injured.

The blasts followed repeated threats from groups based in Libya against the new Egyptian regime and hostile broadcasts transmitted to the country by Libyan radio.

The bombs exploded within 15 minutes of each other and had apparently been planted on the Air Malta aircraft, which had arrived from Tripoli. Ninety passengers had disembarked before the explosions.

Earlier Egyptian security forces were involved in a gun battle near the Pyramids after tracking down two of the five most wanted Muslim fundamentalists in the country. The men are accused of organizing the uprising in Asyut in which more than 40 members of the security forces were killed.

The two Muslims captured today were part of a five-man team whose pictures have been printed in all the semi-official newspapers. Film taken by Egyptian television showed that the men were arrested after being surprised at a block of flats on the outskirts of Cairo.

The building was riddled with bullet-holes and the authorities reported that there had been a heavy exchange of fire before the arrests.

Egyptian television later broadcast fresh descriptions of the men still wanted and showed pictures of the block of flats surrounded by helmeted troops.

One submachine gun, four pistols, an automatic rifle and grenades were seized in the raid. Islamic fundamentalist leaflets were also found.

The two incidents increased the tension which has prevailed since Sadat's murder. Despite repeated claims by the Government that things are calm, there is a widespread conviction among diplomats and ordinary Egyptians that more violence is to come.

Before the latest outbreaks of violence, Mr. Nawab Ismail, the interior Minister, disclosed that the Muslim extremists responsible for the uprising in Asyut had intended to launch attacks throughout the country. The security forces have now been given orders to shoot on sight anyone involved in provoking civil disorder.

## Europe takes up Saudi peace plan

By David Spanier

Lord Carrington, the Foreign Secretary, will visit Saudi Arabia early next month to discuss the peace plan put forward recently by Crown Prince Fahd. This was the main decision by European foreign ministers at their meeting in London yesterday, when they decided to renew their Middle East peace-making efforts.

The ministers, in an important step forward, also agreed a series of measures to improve their cooperation in foreign policy, including discussion of security in its political aspects.

Discussing Prince Fahd's plan, Lord Carrington, chairman of the meeting, said that the foreign ministers wanted to "explore the thinking behind it."

"We can not go along with it all as it stands," he told the press conference. "We want to see if it can be built on in a way which is acceptable to all the parties concerned."

The main points of Prince Fahd's plan, put forward last August and rejected by Israel, were Israeli withdrawal from all territories occupied in 1967; removal of all Jewish settlements from the occupied territories; the establishment of an independent Palestinian state with annexed east Jerusalem as its capital; and a guarantee of the right of all states in the region to live in peace.

## Poles strike despite Solidarity appeal

From Dossa Trevisan, Warsaw, Oct 13

Poland is again troubled by protest strikes breaking out in different regions. Exasperated by long queues and the authorities' continuing failure to provide minimum rations, the Poles appear to be less and less inclined to wait for the outcome of talks between Solidarity and the Communist Government, aimed at an agreement on prices, supplies and other economic problems.

They seem to be ignoring yesterday's appeal by the newly elected praesidium of Solidarity to abstain from protest action pending the outcome of these negotiations. The appeal has not stopped many local union branches from proceeding with planned disruption and scores of factories across Poland staged warning strikes.

Some say that the appeal from Solidarity came too late. But in fact, it illustrates that even the national union leaders cannot easily control the situation when food is lacking in the shops.

In Piotrkow Trybunski, in Torun, in Suwalki and many other centres factories staged lightning strikes and in some cases threatened to extend them unless the demands for immediate market improvements were met.

With the Communist Party Central Committee due to meet on Friday, public pressure on the leadership is gaining strength. Rank and file party members are now demanding that their leaders face up to Solidarity with a clear-cut policy. However, the fact that the committee meeting has been put off several times indicates that the divisions within the ruling Politburo remain.

## Bank shareholders to fight nationalization

From Ian Murray, Brussels, Oct 13

Shareholders of the Banque de Paris et des Pays Bas (Paribas) throughout the world are uniting to fight against nationalization and are setting a fashion in so doing.

Leaders of British, French, Swiss and Belgian resistance groups to the scheme met in Brussels today under the presidency of Mr. Jean Rey, a former Belgian minister and European Commissioner, to announce an international legal fight to stop the French Government from attempting to do more than nationalize the strictly French interests in the company.

The legal niceties were complicated, according to the Swiss representative, Mairie Mayor, the only practical course for the Government to follow was to nationalize the French banking interests only, which represent no more than 12.5 per cent of the total assets of the company.

Mr. Rey said that he was already on good terms with the French Government and hoped to be able to reach an amicable settlement about the level of indemnities and the limitation of nationalization to French territory.

If that failed, however, he said that the case would be fought before the courts of the principal industrialized countries. "Recent consultations have shown us that these countries in effect do not accept the extra-territoriality of a nationalization law and this even applies if an indemnity has been paid."

The shareholders would therefore request the courts to agree that the foreign assets of Paribas should be assigned to a caretaker who would turn them over to the former shareholders.

This is not seen as being any hindrance to the management of the companies. The caretaker would merely be a person or entity holding the shares and assets of the nationalized company pending a definitive court judgment.

Sir Bernard de Hoghton, representing the British shareholders, said there would be no problem in subsequently forming a private holding company based in France to manage those parts of Paribas which were not nationalized. The company could operate outside French government control.

Mr. Rey said that nearly 50 per cent of the consolidated assets of the shareholders were abroad. The French Government had insisted that nationalization was a method of fighting unemployment and bringing investment to France.

"In view of this either the new owners will not use the assets of the company for this objective and in that case we do not see why they should be nationalized, or they have the intention to repatriate these assets with the view to realize the objectives of the law."

"In this case it is in the interest of those countries where the Paribas group is represented to obtain the separation of these assets."

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## School row threatens Belgium

From Our Own Correspondent, Brussels, Oct 13

The Belgian Cabinet was called to meet this evening after Mr. Mark Eyskens, the caretaker Prime Minister, had threatened to stop government business, at least until the general election on November 8.

The immediate cause of his anger was what he regarded as the provocative and heartless way Mr. Philippe Busquin, the Walloon Education Minister, had decided to close a Flemish school, the French-speaking school of Comines, which said his minister was guilty of "political pyromania."

There is no requirement to provide classes for children in one or other of the two national languages if the number of the class falls below 16, which had happened at Comines, where ten children have enrolled this year for the Flemish section.

Mr. Eyskens offered to pay the salaries of the two Flemish staff out of the Flemish education budget, but Mr. Busquin refused to allow them to use the classroom. In normal times the compromise might have worked. It is clear, however, that Mr. Busquin and Mr. Eyskens are electioneering over the fate of the school.

## Rift over Milan newspaper

From Peter Nichols, Rome, Oct 13

The Milan *Corriere della Sera*, Italy's best-selling newspaper, was back at the centre of controversy today as parties opposed the closing of the government divided over plans for buying a controlling interest.

The prospective buyers are headed by Senator Bruno Visentini, the chairman of Olivetti. He is also president of the Republican Party, to which Senator Giovanni Spadolini, the Prime Minister, belongs.

The Government is directly involved because the Socialist party demanded a veto on the purchase.

Senator Spadolini says he was not informed about the proposed purchase until Senator Bettino Craxi, the Socialist leader, told him on September 30.

The *Corriere* has been suffering a particularly difficult period: after leading members of its staff, including the former editor, were mentioned in the masonic scandal.

The Socialists included in their attacks on Senator Visentini's attempt to buy the newspaper the point that he was including in the operation people involved in that affair.

## US praise for king of Spain

Washington, Oct 13.—President Reagan welcomed King Juan Carlos of Spain to the White House today, praising Spain's move to democracy since the death of Franco in 1975.

Mr. Reagan pledged full support for Spain's decision to seek Nato membership and said Americans appreciated the way Spain fought terrorism.

The President spoke on the White House lawn as the King and Queen Sofia began a visit postponed earlier this year because of political uncertainty in Spain. Talks between the two men began immediately after the arrival ceremony.

The United States has long supported Spain's entry into the Western alliance, from which it was barred because of the Franco dictatorship, and American officials said there were no major outstanding issues between the two countries.

One topic on the agenda during the two-day visit was the renewal of arrangements under which the United States has access to two big air bases in Spain as well as the port of Rota for missile-firing submarines, Washington officials said.

The base rights agreement expired last month and officials said they were optimistic that a new agreement would be reached under which more military equipment would be provided for Spain's armed forces.

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Lisbon: Fewer than half the Portuguese people approve of their country's membership of Nato, according to an opinion poll published today. The deployment of United States missiles in Portugal was condemned by 43 per cent.

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## FREEDOM OF PRESS ATTACKED

Kuala Lumpur, Oct 13.—The Malaysian Prime Minister has warned journalists here—only hours after the arrest of one of their colleagues—that the freedom of the press was a myth invented by the "so-called liberal West" to serve its own purposes.

"The loss of... freedom for an individual is of little consequence as compared to the well-being of a nation," Dr. Mahabir Mohamad told a National Press Club dinner last night.

The editor of the Malay newspaper *Utusan* had been arrested a few hours previously under the internal security act, on suspicion of having allowed the newspaper to be used to spread "communist propaganda" — AFP.

## Fifth chess game ends in draw

Merano, Oct. 13.—Anatoly Karpov, the world chess champion, forced a draw against Viktor Korchnoi, the challenger, in the fifth game of their world championship battle today.

Korchnoi, playing with the white pieces, had a pawn advantage but was unable to find a winning line and the two players agreed to abandon the game after Karpov's sixty-eighth move.

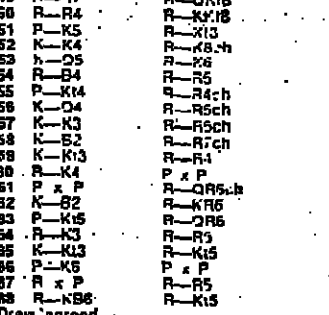
Resuming the adjourned fifth game Karpov unleashed his forty-fifth move and initiated a series of rook manoeuvres by both players that ultimately led nowhere.

The sixth game starts on Thursday after a rest day tomorrow, with Karpov playing white and looking for a fourth win that would put him two-thirds of the way to retaining the title against his Russian emigre challenger.

Some chess experts believed that the draw tended to favour Korchnoi by prolonging the match. The challenger has more stamina, although at 50 he is 20 years older than the champion — Reuter and AP.

## Final position

Black Karpov



White Korchnoi

## Whatever the news



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## Botha sees hope of agreement in Namibia talks

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg, Oct 13

Mr P. W. Botha, South African Prime Minister, has expressed cautious optimism that international talks due to start later this month on the future of Namibia (South West Africa) could open the way to a settlement.

Opening a congress of the Cape branch of the ruling National Party last night, the Prime Minister said that there now appeared to be "greater prospects" that the central issues will be identified and approached on a more realistic basis.

Mr Botha coupled his remarks in Namibia, however, with a fierce attack on Lord Carrington, the Foreign Secretary, for his recent criticism at the United Nations of South Africa's apartheid policy. Lord Carrington had discussed South Africa's internal affairs, "in a most offensive way", Mr Botha declared, adding: "South Africa is a sovereign, independent state, and not a crown colony of Great Britain, or Europe, or any other state."

The Prime Minister also angrily admonished his Australian counterpart, Mr Malcolm Fraser, for using the Commonwealth conference in Melbourne "to belittle South Africa". He suggested that Mr Fraser's purpose had been to "hide his own neglect of the Australian aborigines". Mr Botha said he expected the coming round of talks on Namibia to concentrate on the constitutional principles underlying an independence settlement and the ability of the United Nations to play the role of impartial arbiter in view of its public support for the Swapo guerrilla organization.

The phrase "constitutional principles" is usually taken to cover the delicate question of guarantees for the white and other ethnic minorities in Namibia, in the event of an election victory for the Marxist-leaning Swapo (South West Africa People's Organization).

The South African's also argue that the United Nations is so identified in the public mind as Swapo's champion — the world body has recognized Swapo as the sole authentic representative of the Namibian people — that the mere presence of United Nations troops as a supervisory force during the elections could sway the vote in Swapo's favour.

One of the proposed solutions to this problem is that the United Nations soldiers should wear the uniforms of the countries they come from rather than the traditional "blue helmets" so as to make the world body's presence less conspicuous.

A team of senior officials from the five-nation Western contact group on Namibia is expected to assemble in Lagos, the Nigerian capital, later this month. They will then set out on a tour of the so-called "front-line" African states, South Africa, and Namibia itself, where they are expected in the last week of the month.

□ Multinational corporations, through their "greedy exploitation" of uranium resources in Namibia, are responsible for the nuclear threat posed by South Africa to the rest of Africa, Nigeria alleged yesterday.

## Zimbabwe milk ration fear

Salisbury, Oct 13. — Zimbabwe may have to ration milk by February if supplies of milk powder and butter oil are not secured from the European Community, according to Mr Eddis Cross, general manager of the Dairy Marketing Board.

He said demand for milk had doubled since independence 18 months ago because the minimum wage had been increased by 120 per cent, but dairy production had fallen because of disruption caused by the civil war.

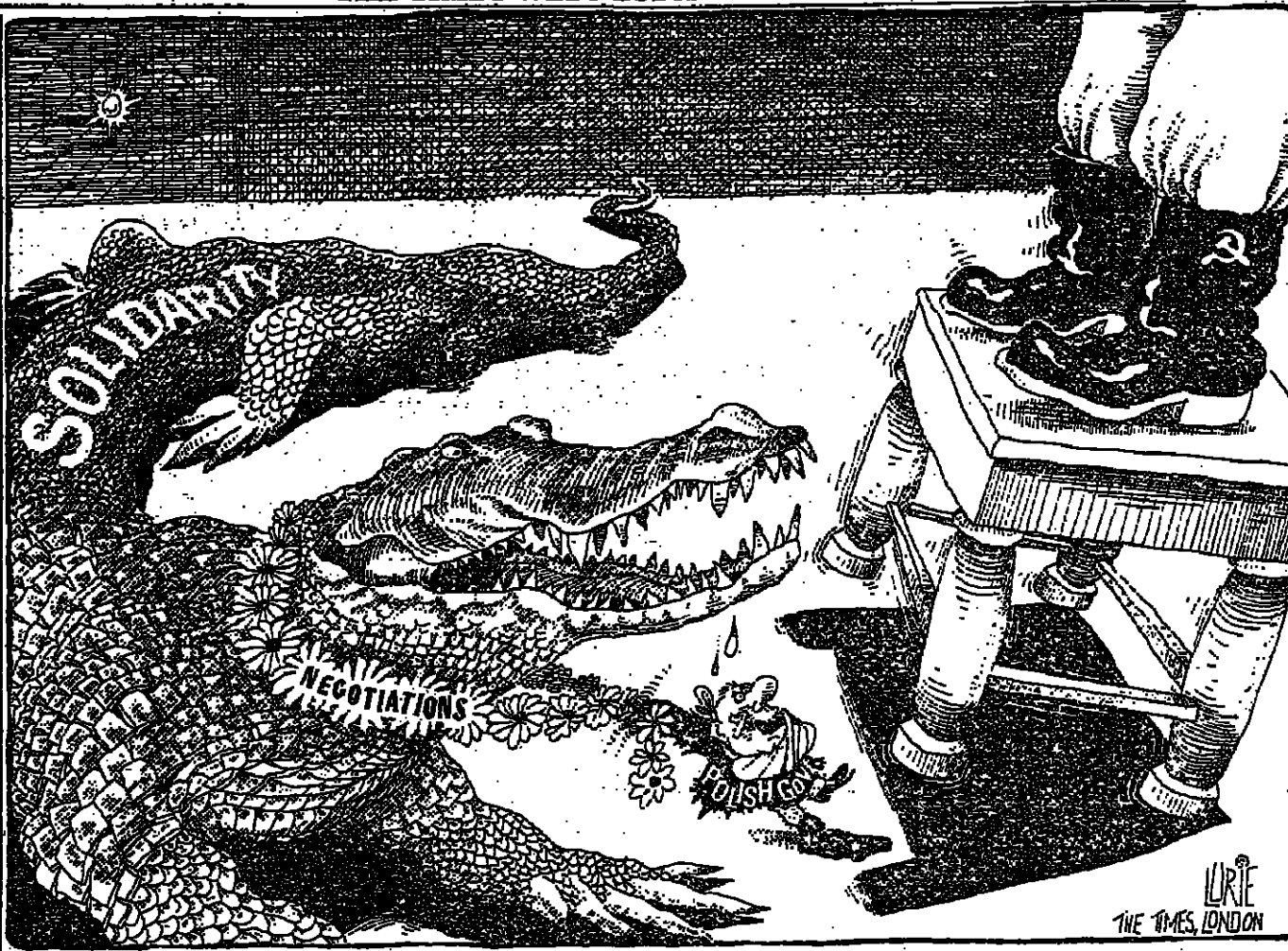
"If overseas supplies do not arrive on time I am afraid we will have to start rationing liquid products by February. This is an extremely worrying position," he said.

Mr Cross is well-respected

by white businessmen and by members of the Government. He is expected to be in the running for the Cabinet post of Trade and Commerce vacated six months ago by Mr David Smith.

Mr Herbert Ushewokunze, who was dismissed as Health Minister without explanation on Monday, has been mentioned three times in a trial in Fort Victoria involving alleged witchcraft.

The prosecutor has spoken of contacts between the former minister and Miss Sophia Muchini, who claims to be the incarnation of a nineteenth century spirit medium and is accused of conspiracy to murder four whites on farms earlier this year. — AFP and AP.



"Don't worry, sir — he's on a tight leash!"

## Pretoria and Moscow 'in prisoner-swap discussions'

From Our Correspondent Johannesburg, Oct 13

South Africa is reported here to be involved in delicate negotiations with the Soviet Union on exchanging Sergeant-Major Nikolai Pestretsov, the Soviet warrant officer captured by the South Africans during the recent fighting in Angola, for Sapper Johan Mescht of the South African Army, who is being held by the Angolans.

Sapper van der Mescht was taken prisoner in 1978 in southern Angola by guerrillas of the South-West Africa People's Organization, the independence of Namibia. They operate out of bases in Angola.

The International Red Cross, which South Africa and the Soviet Union are understood to have accepted as a mediator, has visited both captives and reported to their respective governments on their state of health and the conditions in which they are being held.

The Russians are believed to have approached Pretoria over the heads of the Angolans, who hitherto have always disclaimed responsibility for Sapper van der Mescht, arguing that he was captured by Swapo and not

Angolan forces. This is thought to have caused some annoyance in Luanda. There is also a suspicion in some quarters here that the South Africans have not over-exerted themselves up to now on Sapper van der Mescht's behalf because he allegedly agreed, or as forced, to give a broadcast over Angolan radio condemning South African raids into Angola.

Sergeant-Major Pestretsov, who was acting as a chief motor mechanic with the Angolan forces at the time of his capture and is not thought to have provided any military or other intelligence of value, is not the only Russian citizen the South Africans are holding.

Another is Major Alexei Koslov, alleged to be a senior officer in the KGB, the Soviet secret service, whose capture, some time in 1980, was announced last January by Mr Pieter Botha, the South African Prime Minister.

According to Mr Botha, Major Koslov's main task in South Africa was to assess the effectiveness of underground black nationalist organizations, such as the African National Congress,

## Olympics security to be tighter

From Ivor Davis Los Angeles, Oct 13

Worried about terrorist threats to the 1984 Olympic Games, the Los Angeles organizing committee has invited local police chiefs to meet senior Federal Government officials later this month to discuss how to ensure security.

The Los Angeles Times today reported that there had been some squabbling between police agencies over who would head security at the Games, and that Olympic officials want the Federal Government to take charge of security operations.

Mr Peter Ueberroth, the president of the Los Angeles Olympic committee, has already met President Reagan and senior government officials to voice his concern. As a result, Mr Edward Hickey, director of special support services in the White House, will assist local officials.

Earlier this year General George Deukmejian, the Californian attorney, reported that terrorist incidents, including bombings, had increased throughout the state during the previous year.

## Castle stops schism of her MEPs

From David Wood Strasbourg, Oct 13

The increasingly embarrassing position of 17 British Labour MEPs in the Socialist group of the European Parliament forced a statement from Mrs Barbara Castle today that the contingent she leads will stay in one piece and remain within the continental Socialist group.

Since the 1979 direct elections, British Labour MEPs have been divided among themselves. With a majority against community membership and at least six fervent supporters of membership.

Recently the seven most strongly committed anti-marketisers have argued for dissociation from the 10-nation Socialist group. They want instead to form an alliance with other MEPs who sympathize with official Labour Party policy to withdraw from membership.

Although Mrs Castle has now made peace with her colleagues in the Socialist group leadership, neither anti-membership nor pro-membership British Labour MEPs are comfortable with the false situation they are in.

## Letter from Moscow

### Flying greengrocers from Soviet south

Step into any aircraft flying up from Central Asia or the Caucasus at this time of year and you will think you have walked into a greengrocer's: boxes of grapes, sacks of melons, huge bags of ripe and oozing fruit are squashed under the seats and stuffed on to the overhead racks.

Every Moscow-bound passenger brings as much up from the Soviet southern cornucopia as he can carry, turning Aeroflot for a few weeks into a flying fruitier.

In spring the airline is more like a florist's. Flowers are an essential part of life in the northern cities: not only for weddings and banquets, but to greet delegations at stations and airports, to throw at your favourite theatre and ballet stars, present to your teacher on the first day of school and to take round to friends in hospital or entertaining at dinner. Demand is enormous and naturally unsatisfied, and enterprising Georgians make a fortune selling roses and gladioli all year round at a minimum of three roubles (£2) a bloom.

Of course, flowers also grow in the Moscow region, but Russians are not natural gardeners. For a start, most people live in blocks of flats and do not have a garden. And communal gardens in the courtyards are a pathetic sight.

For those city dwellers who have a dacha — a country cottage — the garden is not a place to be trimmed, tended and weeded as the English would have it. It is a place to enjoy *au naturel*: and for a Russian the ideal dacha garden is one that most closely resembles a jungle.

Russians love nature, and have little time for improvements on its art. Grass should be a meadow, thick and lush, flowers should ramble wild and trees should have that forlorn, untamed look that features in every painting of the Russian countryside.

This outlook is particularly convenient in a country where a lawnmower is almost unknown and where the idea of disciplined work with a trowel in your free time seems idiotic. You have to go to Estonia to find more Teutonic order and tidiness and hence more English-looking gardens.

But the unkempt look is not so suitable for the big parks. Here gardening has been refined to a semi-industrial art. A planting brigade goes out in spring and huge

beds appear in bloom overnight. I have watched a street-washing lorry water all the flowers outside the hotel in Yalta with admirable economy of time and labour. The driver directed a high-pressure hose on to each tub, and within 10 seconds it was inundated, with splatterings of mud and flowers on the ground around as evidence of speedy delivery.

But growing for profit is a different matter. With the increasing shortage of fresh fruit and vegetables, more and more people are turning — with official encouragement — to the cultivation of private plots. Books on kitchen gardening are in demand, and translations of Western manuals on running your allotment are even circulating in *samizdat* — privately duplicated copies. At private markets peasants sell home-collected seeds in little newspaper cones with lurid handpainted cards beside each pile illustrating sumptuous marrows or succulent tomatoes.

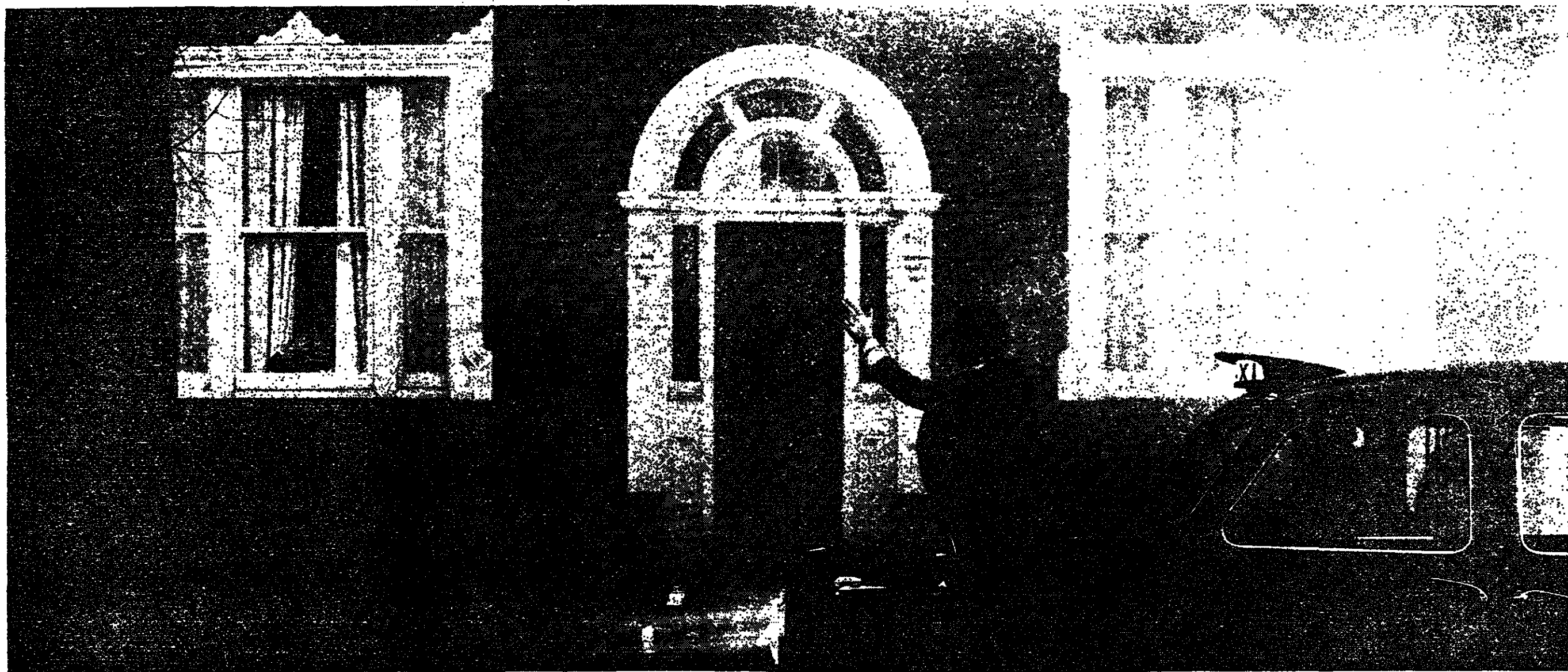
I know of one man who set up a hothouse in his flat. He filled an entire room with trays and earthbeds, and in spring was able to offer tulip bulbs and vegetable seedlings at prices that quickly made him very rich.

There is a well-known joke about the flower trade: an airliner from Georgia to Moscow was hijacked and ordered to fly to Paris. Suddenly two passengers sprang up. Overpowered the hijackers and told the pilot to continue to Moscow. On landing, the Georgians were fêted with a heroes' welcome, but a friend later took them aside and asked them why they had done it when they could otherwise have been in Paris. "But," replied one Georgian, "what are we going to do with 2,000 daffodils in Paris?"

The one area where urban Russians excel is indoor gardening. Potted plants have become very vogueish, with huge palms adorning hotels and private homes.

One of the best displays I remember used to be in the cashier's office of the Moscow customs house. I was pleased to discover the cashier's penchant, and once took her a particularly nice plant when I knew my consignment that had arrived bore a rather steep duty. She was delighted, and with rare and infuriating Soviet rectitude accepted the gift and charged me the full whack of the duty.

Michael Binyon



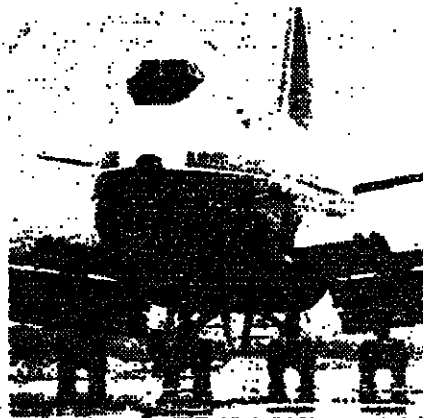
## What makes an airline human

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## Boom in French arms sales to Arab nations

From Jonathan Fenby, Paris, Oct 13

The full extent of the boom in French arms exports, and the importance of weapons sales to the Arab world, have been disclosed by figures obtained for *The Times* in Paris.

In the year ending April 1981, the Middle East and North Africa took arms worth 37,200m francs (7,720m) from France or 78.8 per cent of total weapons sales abroad.

West Europe and North America accounted for 7.4 per cent of French arms exports and Latin America for 7 per cent.

The restricted figures, from the Foreign Trade Ministry, showed overall arms exports this spring and summer running at 37 per cent higher than in 1980. Exports between April and August amounted to 11,400m francs and reached a high point of just over 3,000m francs in June.

The figures may, in fact, somewhat understate the full extent of French involvement in the arms trade as they do not include all spare parts.

France's expansion in the international arms market dates back to Gaullist days, and has been greatly boosted by the success of the Mirage Military jet aircraft built by the Dassault aircraft firm, now being taken under state ownership.

The make-up of French weapons exports changed, however, last year as sales of naval vessels increased to take up 41 per cent of the 37,400m francs total.

Aircraft accounted for 30 per cent and equipment for land forces for 29 per cent.

The economic importance of the arms trade to France is likely to pose some tricky questions for President Mitterrand, who came to office in May as a critic of what he called indiscriminate

weapons sales by previous French administrations.

While putting South Africa and Chile on an arms black list, the Socialist Government has repeatedly emphasized that it will honour all contracts signed by France in the past, even if that meant delivering two frigates earlier this year to Argentina, whose human rights record has been publicly criticized by Mitterrand.

The figures for sales this spring and summer do not, therefore, represent any sudden conversion of Mitterrand into an arms salesman, because the contracts were signed well before he came to office.

The importance of the Middle East market for French arms has been boosted by a big contract to reequip and train the Saudi Arabian Navy signed under President Giscard d'Estaing and by Mirage sales to a number of Arab countries.

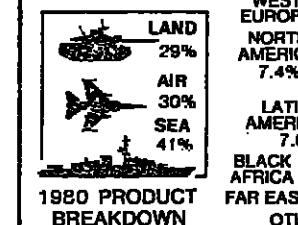
There are consistent reports in Paris that Franco-Saudi military cooperation may be developed in aircraft sales, with one possibility being that the Saudis could help to finance the development of the latest Dassault prototype, the Mirage 4000.

Iraq is interested in acquiring the multi-role Mirage 2000, while Jordan, Egypt and Algeria have all been mentioned recently as other potential purchasers of Dassault aircraft.

Such prospects can have been helped by Mitterrand's successful visit to Saudi Arabia at the end of last month and by the smoothing out of preliminary Franco-Iraqi differences over the reconstruction of the French-built nuclear reactor outside Baghdad which was bombed by Israel in June.

### FRENCH ARMS SALES

APRIL 1980-81



1980 PRODUCT BREAKDOWN



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## Bob Astles pleads not guilty to murder

Kampala, Oct 13—Mr Bob Astles, the British-born aide of ousted President Idi Amin of Uganda, pleaded not guilty at the start of his murder trial at the High Court in Kampala today.

Mr Astles, who wielded considerable power during Idi Amin's rule, is charged with murdering a fisherman near the shore of Lake Victoria in an anti-smuggling operation four years ago.

The trial, originally due to open on October 5, was twice postponed at the request of the prosecution.

Witnesses for the prosecution today described Mr Astles' extradition from Kenya on June 9, 1979. He fled there in April of that year in the last days of the Amin Regime.

Evidence presented to the court included photographs of the dead man's skull, which a police pathologist said showed a two inch fracture probably caused by a bullet.

Some 150 spectators were in the packed courtroom, including Mr Astles' Ugandan wife, Mary.

Mr Astles' trial was due to open last week, but was postponed when the prosecution said another man would also be tried with the murder of the fisherman. It was postponed again yesterday when the prosecution demanded that Mr Astles' British lawyer renew his Ugandan practising certificate before proceedings could begin.

Mr Phillip Wilkinson the lawyer was in court after renewing his licence this morning.

Two Ugandan assessors were sworn in today to assist Mr Justice Seth Mainwaring on the case. Under Ugandan legal practice, at least one assessor should be of the defendant's tribe.

Apologising for the break from usual practice, Justice Mainwaring said: "He tried in vain to get one white man to be an assessor, so we will be using local chaps." Mr Astles did not object. — Reuter.

President Milton Obote announced that the Ugandan Government will release another 2,000 prisoners — mostly former soldiers of Idi Amin — before Christmas.

Charles Harrison writes from Nairobi: Amnesty freed 2,822 prisoners, have been freed since President Obote took office after last December's elections.

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## Nurse wins top award

A British nurse who turned a derelict building in Hongkong into a medical centre serving 14,500 Vietnamese boat people was yesterday presented with the International Red Cross top nursing award by Princess Alexandra, vice-president of the British Red Cross Society.

Miss Helen Cockson, from Garstang, Lancashire, has done everything at the centre from scrubbing floors to the recruitment of staff and caring for refugees. She flew to London from Hongkong to receive the Florence Nightingale Medal.

## EEC told to work for common research policy

From Ian Murray, Brussels, Oct 13

The tax-payers of Europe are paying too much for badly co-ordinated research projects, Viscount Davignon believes that if this was increased to 3 per cent and if the proper political will existed, it would be possible to begin to make Europe scientifically competitive.

The Commission's view is that medium and long-term research is something which national governments tend to neglect because they do not have immediate political benefit. The Commission, on the other hand, can take a longer and more detached view of a project and judge its value more clearly in terms of scientific excellence.

In Viscount Davignon's view this would give European research greater flexibility. Research programmes agreed and funded by the Commission would not come under national budgetary pressure.

The priorities suggested for research are: agriculture, which now receives just over 1 per cent of the Community research budget; strategic industries, such as chemicals and cars; and projects to help developing countries.

## NZ leader defends politicians

From Our Correspondent

Wellington, Oct 13 — Mr Robert Muldoon, the Prime Minister, claimed tonight that the behaviour of the young was influenced more by the media than by politicians. He was replying to criticism from Sir Denis Hamilton, president of the Commonwealth Press Union and chairman of Times Newspapers (Holdings) Ltd.

Sir Denis, who is in New Zealand on a Commonwealth Press Union delegation, said in Rotorua that if politicians at the top level threw abuse at each other the younger generation had no lead to follow.

During a prime ministerial conference at the recent Commonwealth heads of government meeting in Melbourne and rough scenes at an international football fixture between New Zealand and Sir Denis said: "If prime ministers become involved in slanging matches with each other, as they have done in the last two weeks, then 16-year-olds will run amuck on football fields."

"A lot of it was electioneering but the past politicians were witty."

Mr Muldoon said that the 1979 revolution to nearly 3,400, according to Amnesty International. Of these, more than 1,800 have been since the dismissal of President Bani-Sadr in June this year.

In a statement this week Amnesty said that in 1980, out of a total of 1,229 known executions throughout the world, 709 were in Iran. The human rights organization said it was trying to send delegates to Tehran for talks with Iranian leaders, so as to end the mass executions, some of which have been carried out without trial and many after trials falling well short of internationally accepted standards.

Amnesty said its estimate of 3,350 people executed since



## Communist pledge on Greek vote

From Mario Modiano, Athens, Oct 13

The Communist party of Greece offered tonight almost unconditional support for a Socialist Government after Sunday's election, in case of a conservative defeat.

Mr Eleanoris Florakis, the secretary-general of the pro-Moscow party, speaking to a large campaign rally in Constitution Square in Athens tonight, said his party was ready to help in the formation of a government committed to political change.

The Greek socialist party (Pasok), whose main electoral slogan is *alaghi* (change), stands a good chance to win the election, Mr Florakis said, but he would not make it clear whether the Communists insisted on joining a Pasok Cabinet.

He said that his party "is ready to collaborate with the forces favouring political change, on the basis of a minimum common programme for national independence, democracy, the elimination of monopoly privileges, and a better life for the people."

Pasok would not disagree with any of them, although the Communists mistrust the Socialists because of their recent flexibility about foreign affairs and defence.

The Communists aim rather ambitiously at a 17 per cent share of the vote in the hope of returning 50 or more deputies in the 300-seat Parliament.

Neither the ruling New Democracy nor Pasok would be likely in that case to command an absolute majority.

Mr Florakis said that even if Pasok won, it would be unable to cope with the reactions and opposition of the oligarchy and its foreign protectors.

Mr Andreas Papandreu, the Pasok leader, has indicated privately that he does not propose to rely on Communist support if he wins. But he has refrained from confirming this in public.

From what the Communist leader said tonight, it becomes clear that this party will try to wield its power in Parliament and, especially in the trade unions, to act as Pasok's Marxist conscience.

## Guerrilla deaths take Iran execution toll to 3,350

By Our Foreign Staff

Twenty-two more executions of political opponents — members of the Mujahedin Khalq guerrilla organization — were announced by Tehran radio yesterday.

This brings the number of known executions in Iran since the 1979 revolution to nearly 3,400, according to Amnesty International. Of these, more than 1,800 have been since the dismissal of President Bani-Sadr in June this year.

In a statement this week Amnesty said that in 1980, out of a total of 1,229 known executions throughout the world, 709 were in Iran. The human rights organization said it was trying to send delegates to Tehran for talks with Iranian leaders, so as to end the mass executions, some of which have been carried out without trial and many after trials falling well short of internationally accepted standards.

Amnesty said its estimate of 3,350 people executed since

February, 1979, was a minimum, based on reports known outside the country. The true toll might be higher.

In Tehran prison and hospital spokesmen have denied a claim made by Mr Masud Rajavi, the exiled leader of the Mujahedin Khalq, that a 100 boys and girls between the ages of 14 and 18 have been taken from hospital and executed.

Thousands of Iranian pilgrims staged a protest march in Mecca on Monday after the arrest of some of their compatriots, according to Tehran radio.

The radio, monitored in London by Reuters, said Saudi Arabian security forces tightly controlled the demonstrators.

The Saudi authorities have complained that Iranians making the pilgrimage to Mecca have been engaging in political activity and distributing banned propaganda. — Reuter.

## No cause of action against all Opus Dei members

Roche v Sherrington and Others

Before Mr Justice Stode

[Judgment delivered October 13]

His Lordship struck out as disclosing no reasonable cause of action a claim by Dr John James Roche, of Linacre College, Oxford, against Father Philip Sherrington, of Ormeau, County Dublin, who was sued in a representative capacity for Opus Dei. His Lordship stated that Roche's action against the third defendant Netherhall Education Association, also of Ormeau, until further order of certain additional parties.

Mr Mark Blackett-Ord for Dr Roche; Mr Michael Brooke for Father Sherrington and Netherhall; the second defendant Mr R. C. Farrell did not appear and was not represented.

MR JUSTICE SLADE, in the Chancery Division, said that there were two motions before him in an action by Dr Roche against Father Sherrington, Mr Farrell, and Netherhall Education Association, an English registered charity which was alleged in the statement of claim to be controlled by Opus Dei, although that was denied by Netherhall.

Opus Dei was an international unincorporated association of certain members of the Roman Catholic church. It had no legal existence apart from the members of which it was composed; it was not alleged to be a partnership or a registered society. In raising his claims against Opus Dei, Dr Roche was attempting to avail himself of Order 15, rule 12 of the Rules of the Supreme Court, which allowed "representative proceedings" where numerous persons had the same interests.

As appeared from the speech of Lord Atkinson in *London Association for Protection of Trade v Greenlands Ltd* [1916] 2 AC 15, one of the objects of that rule was to facilitate the bringing of actions against unincorporated associations of persons. Initially a plaintiff required to have either a sufficient number of members to bring the action against representative defendants or in selecting the persons he would sue, but by rule 12(2) of the Rules, the plaintiff could apply for a representation order.

In the present case, Father Sherrington and Mr Farrell had been selected to represent Opus Dei in a representative capacity, and no allegations whatever were made against them personally. Dr Roche had been a member of Opus Dei from 1959 until about 1973.

His claims substantially were for repayment of sums of money alleged to have been paid to Opus Dei or Netherhall during the years when he was a member, and for repayment of loans alleged to have been made by Netherhall between 1958 and 1974 as the result in each case of the undue influence of Opus Dei on the mind of Dr Roche.

By the first motion Father Sherrington applied for the endorsement on the writ and the statement of claim to be struck out so far as related to himself and the action against him dismissed with costs, as being improperly brought in a representative capacity, as disclosing no reasonable cause of action against him or Opus Dei, and as frivolous, vexatious and an abuse of process.

By the second motion Netherhall sought an order that the action be stayed against it until one Mr Burke and one Mr Silvano Burroso should be joined by Dr Roche or until further order.

Dr Roche's statement of claim alleged, inter alia, that from 1961 until 1972, he worked as a salesman in Kenya, one third of his salary being paid by the UK Ministry of Overseas Development and two thirds by the Kenya Government, the whole of it being paid to him to save that from about 1965 the UK contribution had to be paid to him in this country, that at the request of the head of Opus Dei in Kenya, Father Paul Cummings, he caused the UK contribution to be paid into an account at the Standard Bank in London in the names of himself, Mr Drakard and Mr Burroso. All sums in the account were then paid by standing order to Netherhall.

The rest of his salary was given initially to Opus Dei registered trustees and later to an account in the name of Opus Dei in the joint names of Dr Roche and two unidentified fellow members of Opus Dei; any two of whom had drawing rights on the account.

Dr Roche was bound to Opus Dei by vows of poverty, chastity and obedience, and relied on it for spiritual advice and instruction and trusted it to provide for him materially, and must be presumed, it was said, to have been under the domination of Opus Dei, and his gifts to have been procured by undue influence. Dr Roche claimed that Opus Dei had been liable to Netherhall for the sums of money repaid the relevant gifts and loans.

The accuracy of the law as stated in *Alford v Skinner* (1887) 36 Ch D 145, (71) had not been questioned. When the relevant relationship existed at the time of the transaction the onus fell on the recipient to rebut the relevant presumption and justify the transaction by affirmatively proving that it was the spontaneous act of the donor resulting from a true exercise of his independent will.

The substantive question was whether a claim for rescission of a transaction on the ground of undue influence and for consequent repayment was in law capable of being made against an unincorporated association when

that claim was only based on a presumption of undue influence as opposed to actual undue influence on the part of particular members or agents of the association. That appeared to be a novel point of law, on which neither side could claim to say directly opposite authority.

Mr Brooke submitted that as a matter of law Dr Roche's claim based on presumed undue influence could not succeed unless he could point to the existence of a personal relationship between himself and one or more individuals out of whom the association was composed, and that a personal relationship of some kind was essential. Evidence was made to *Tufan v Serna* (1952) 2 TLR 516, (530) and to the recent decision in *Re Hurler's Estate* (1978) Ch 10.

Mr Blackett-Ord in answer submitted that in principle there was no reason why appropriate circumstances a claim based on presumed undue influence should not be raised against a corporate or unincorporated body, even though the plaintiff could not point to any individual with whom a special relationship could be said to have existed.

His Lordship bore in mind that the jurisdiction to strike out was one that should be sparingly exercised and only in what the court regarded as plain and obvious cases (see for example *Wentlock v Moloney* (1965) 1 WLR 1238).

His Lordship had come to the conclusion that Dr Roche had an arguable case in so far as he averred that there existed the relevant relationship between himself and the members of Opus Dei at the several dates of the relevant transactions. In considering whether a transaction between an individual and an unincorporated association might, in principle, give rise to a presumption of undue influence on the part of the association, his Lordship thought that a hypothetical example might be helpful; for example, a man might enter into a transaction with his assets to a corporate merchant bank in circumstances making it plain that he was looking to the bank as a source of financial interest without his entering into a special personal relationship with any individual member of the bank.

Subsequently he might enter into a particular transaction conferring substantial benefits on the bank, but could not be said to have been induced by a particular bank representative. On such hypothetical facts his Lordship could see no reason why the bank should not be liable to the man, even if there existed a special fiduciary relationship between the bank and customers which placed on the bank the onus of justifying the transaction.

If that were right it must be at least arguable that the relevant relationship existed even if the bank were an unincorporated association. Accordingly Father Sherrington did not object to the claim against Dr Roche being allowed to proceed on that particular point. There was, however, another formidable hindrance to him in that he was not a member of Opus Dei at the time the action was brought against Father Sherrington.

Assuming the existence of the relevant relationship with members of Opus Dei at the relevant times, he might perhaps have an arguable case that he was entitled to each payment against all those persons who were members at the dates of payment. The present claim was against Father Sherrington, who was not a member of Opus Dei at the time the action was brought against him. It was against all the present members of Opus Dei, which must include many persons who were not members at the time of the payments. His Lordship asked himself whether a person who became a member of Opus Dei after the date of the payments could possibly be personally liable in equity to make repayment to Dr Roche.

Mr Blackett-Ord suggested that he could because "members would hold my client's money today". However, the statement of claim did not allege that any common fund or pool of money into which moneys were traceable in equity. He did not allege that the present members of Opus Dei had benefited or were capable of benefiting. Dr Roche might have an arguable case against the other two parties to the joint account in Nairobi or against actual recipients of the money paid out of that account or paid out by Opus Dei registered trustees.

His Lordship had no material to express any opinion on that point and in the circumstances he was unable to say whether or not it could be formulated against all the present members. The first motion must therefore succeed on the ground that the writ disclosed no reasonable cause of action against Father Sherrington or against all members of Opus Dei.

The action against Netherhall would be dismissed with costs. His Lordship then proceeded to deal with the second motion. He granted a stay against Netherhall until either Dr Roche or Mr Drakard and Mr Burroso applied until further order and Dr Roche to apply for an order under Order 15, rule 4(2), dispensing with leave to join either or both Mr Drakard and Mr Burroso. He directed Netherhall to disclose to Dr Roche's solicitors, if known to Netherhall, the present postal address of Mr Drakard and Mr Burroso.

Solicitors: Bower & Bowerman, Oxford; Timmins Salner & Webb.



# NEWPORT

Newport, Gwent, not the Isle of Wight resort, says Patrick O'Leary... this is the big one, tackling huge problems and determined to achieve new prosperity

Once caused confusion for the readers of a Hampshire newspaper by telling them their county cricketers were playing Glamorgan at Newport, sending them hurrying off to the Isle of Wight. So let us first establish identity.

This is not Newport, IOW. Nor is it one of the smaller Newports in England, Scotland, and west Wales. This is the big one, Newport, Mon. At least it would be Newport, Mon, if Monmouthshire had not become Gwent in the reorganization of local government. But in an area where many people still think of themselves as living in western England rather than south-east Wales it will be a generation or two before the new geography comes tripping off the tongue.

The borough of Newport is the commercial centre of the county. It has a population of 136,000 living in 77 square miles spread across rolling countryside looking over the Bristol Channel and straddling the mouth of the Usk. In addition to the port itself the boundaries enclose the town of Caerleon and a score of villages.

Even in these depressed days, with local unemployment touching 15 per cent, 60,000 people work there, some travelling in from the rest of Gwent or even farther. The industrial revolution brought rapid expansion to Newport. It handled coal from inland valleys, and iron ore to feed the metal-processing factories which sprang up round the town.

Such heavy industry is still of great importance to the local economy, and officials hope the Japanese car firm, Nissan, will choose to establish its European manufacturing base near the port. But they also want to diversify the range of employment and, in competition with Bristol and Scotland, can claim some success in trying to become Britain's silicon valley.

Immos, manufacturing microchips, are building a futuristic production centre on 32 acres at Duffryn, sold to the firm by Newport corporation. The construction of premises where dust, temperature and humidity must be tightly controlled, is expected to cost £10m, and when finished next year the plant will employ 1,000 people.

The choice of Newport came after much Cabinet agonizing and a trip by Sir Keith Joseph to the company's manufacturing centre at Colorado Springs. A multi-million pound package of

government support channelled chiefly through the National Enterprise Board helped to persuade the firm to put their plant in south Wales rather than in the Bristol area, where they have a research unit.

Another large scale company in advanced electronics, Mitel of Canada, is investing £32m in a European headquarters on a site in Caldicot, bordering Newport. Mitel's founder was a Welshman.

These newcomers to south Wales are joining high technology firms with more familiar names, such as Monsanto, Plassey and Standard Telephones and Cables. The Government has granted the town development area assisted status, and ready-built factories provided by the Welsh Development Agency are among inducements offered to business men seeking new quarters.

In the scramble to attract new industry, it can be forgotten that preservation of existing firms is just as important in fighting unemployment. Newport council have introduced a business advisory service.

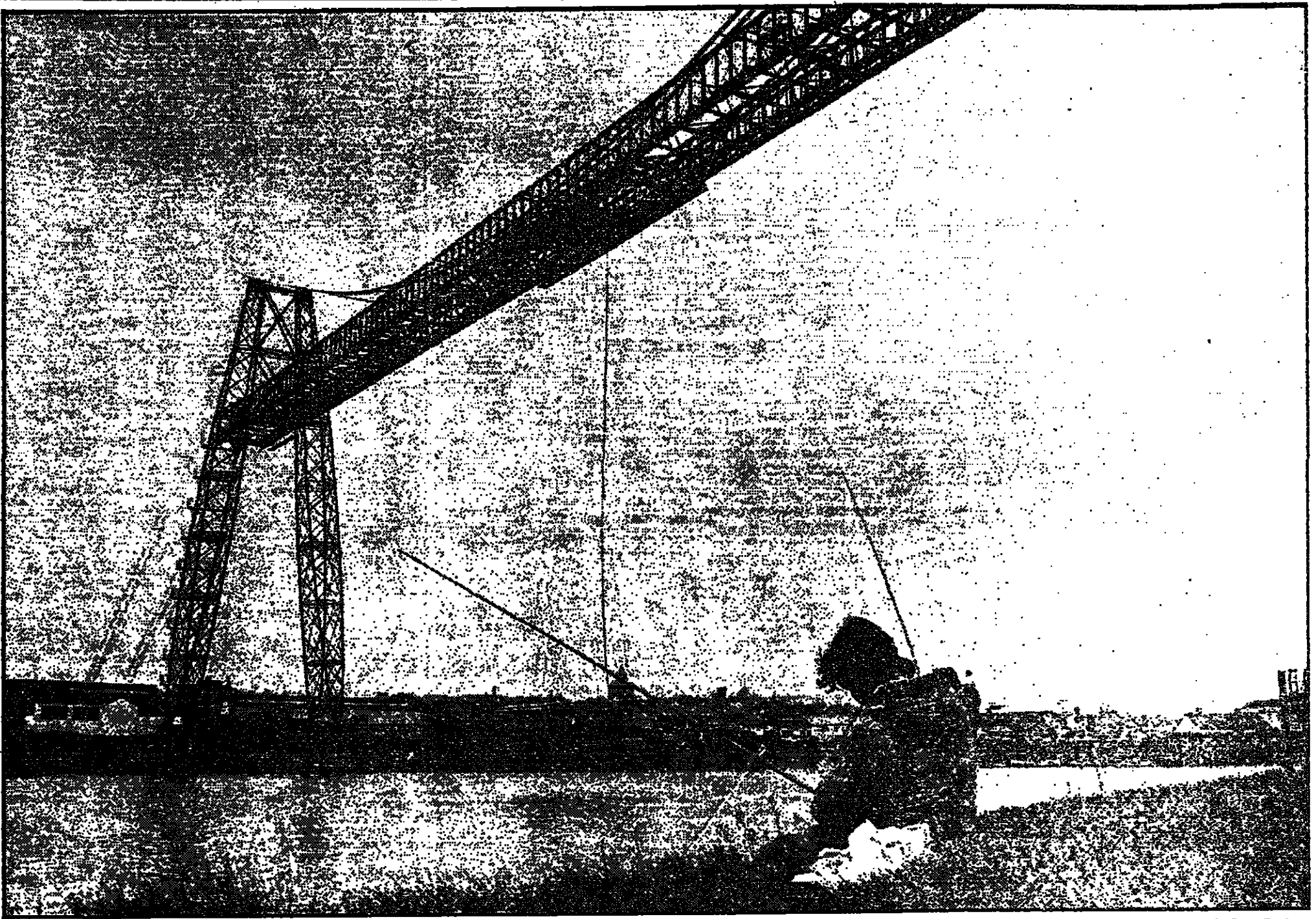
Newport's communications with England and western Wales have been transformed by the introduction of high speed trains and the extension of the M4. This motorway runs so close to Newport that local drivers use it to get from one side of town to the other.

It is a measure of changing conditions that Newport's largest employers now include the borough council and the Business Statistics Office, which moved from London to the countryside west of the town. Council staff work in the imposing civic centre.

It is architecturally a good deal more interesting than the county council offices, put up for sale since the staff moved into a new county hall at Cwmbran. More jobs have also been created by the town's modern shopping centre.

Although there are few premises to let, it will probably be some time before this becomes fully integrated with the traditional market hall and the range of stores in neighbouring Commercial Street. There is further competition from an out-of-town hypermarket.

The question of national identity seems likely to arouse controversy. One company bidding for the franchise to run the proposed local commercial radio station are unenthusiastic about broadcasting in Welsh, saying the majority of people in the area cannot understand it. But they believe a weekly half hour in Urdu would be welcomed.



The transporter bridge which uses a suspended ferry platform to carry people and cars across the Usk.

Photograph: Steve Benbow

## A steel success story

Steel has played a dominant role in both the prosperity and decline of this corner of south-east Wales. There are a number of specialized plants, some owned by the British Steel Corporation, others in private hands, including Alcan, and Alphassteel. But the largest producer is the BSC works at Llanwern, which was equipped to the highest standards when it opened in 1962.

Last year it faced possible closure under plans to reorganize the corporation. Now it is regarded as a success story, operating in a way that is held up as an example to plants in other parts of Britain. Success may seem a strange word to apply to Llanwern, which has reduced output and halved its labour force. But this slimming exercise has led to

improved productivity, and management say man hours per tonne are now comparable with any producer in Europe and many in Japan.

There have also been savings in fuel, although 10 or 11 Welsh pits still depend on Llanwern as their biggest customer. The plant used to produce 2.7m tonnes annually. The figure has dropped to below 2m tonnes and the labour force has been cut from more than 9,300 to 4,667. Reductions applied to middle management and other white collar staff as well as to manual workers.

Absenteeism has dropped dramatically, and little overtime is required. There have been radical changes in working practices and manning

standards, with most demarcation barriers swept away. Nevertheless, the loss of jobs has been a heavy blow to the local economy, and pushed up the unemployment rate. Llanwern hopes that in time the recession will end and more steel will be required. Agreement has already been reached on the levels of manning required if production again goes above 2 million tonnes a year and then back to full capacity of 2.7 million tonnes.

Much of the steel produced goes into cars, including the BL Metro, and to manufacturers of domestic appliances. Some is exported to Yugoslavia, going in special wagons via Harwich and by barge along European waterways, including the Danube.

A leading official of the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation said in June: "The trade unions have made tremendous sacrifices to implement the plan and are fully committed to seeing it through. Llanwern still plays a major part in the economies of Gwent and south Wales and the steel industry is the foundation on which the engineering world stands."

BSC own a stretch of land to the south of the Llanwern works, at present leased to farmers. Originally it was reserved for possible future expansion of the works. Now the corporation hope it might prove to be the right site for Nissan to establish its car plant, which would provide a buyer for Llanwern's kind of steel on its doorstep.

## Face lifts

Newport has put considerable resources and effort into rehabilitating some of its older areas in recent years. Even an estate of prefabs, which aging residents refuse to give up, is well maintained and the Victorian covered market with its cast iron framework has been restored at a cost of £300,000.

So it was not surprising the council were among the first authorities to take up the offer of grants for designated commercial improvement areas under the 1978 Inner Urban Areas Act. They chose, appropriately enough, Commercial Road, a decaying thoroughfare running through an area known as Pill from the main shopping district in Commercial Street down to the docks.

In the first year of the scheme more than £100,000 was allocated, some of the money going in loans and grants to property owners, and on capital expenditure for such projects as demolishing buildings and providing car parks. At least £90,000 is likely to be spent in the current year.

The aim of the scheme is to help shopkeepers and other businessmen to improve their premises, and encourage newcomers to take over empty property. Two years ago 69 buildings, some 30 per cent of those in the street, were unoccupied. One yardstick for awarding grants is whether the proposal either preserves existing jobs or

continued on next page

# See NEWPORT by return of post

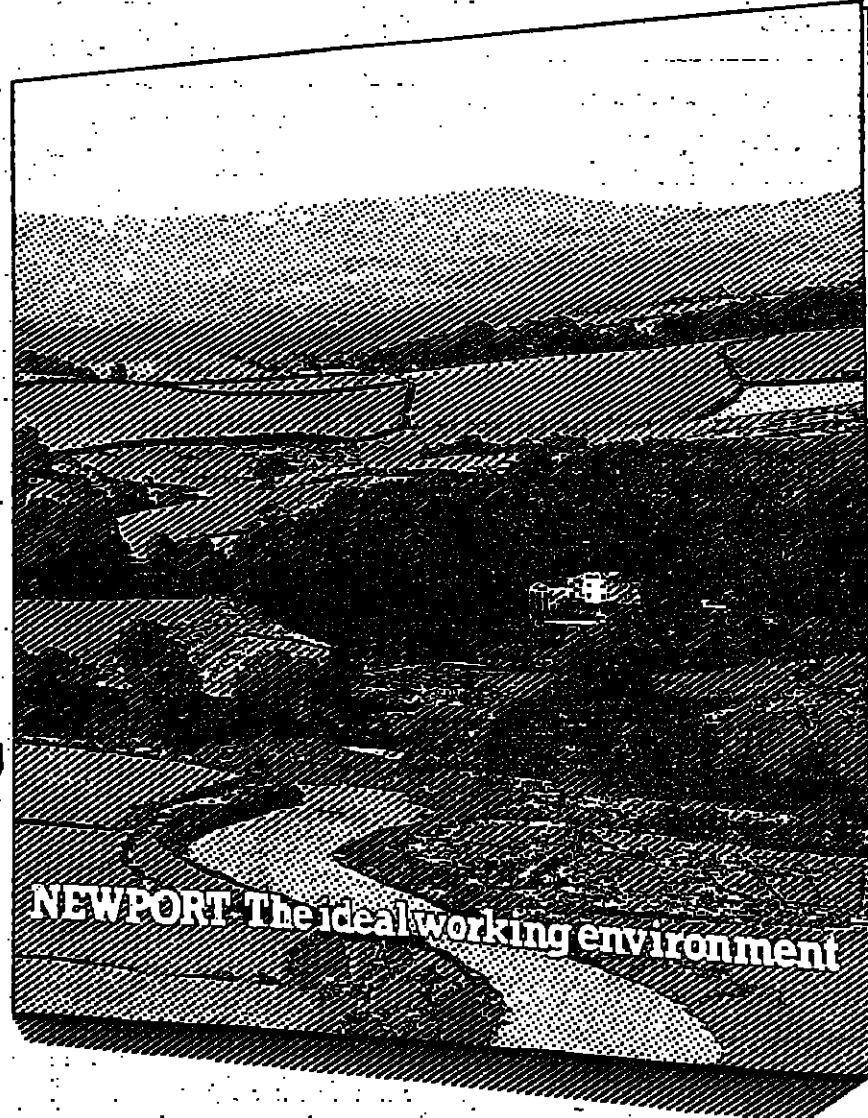
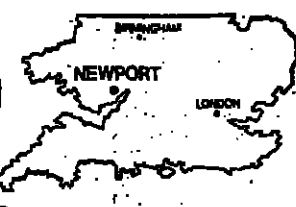
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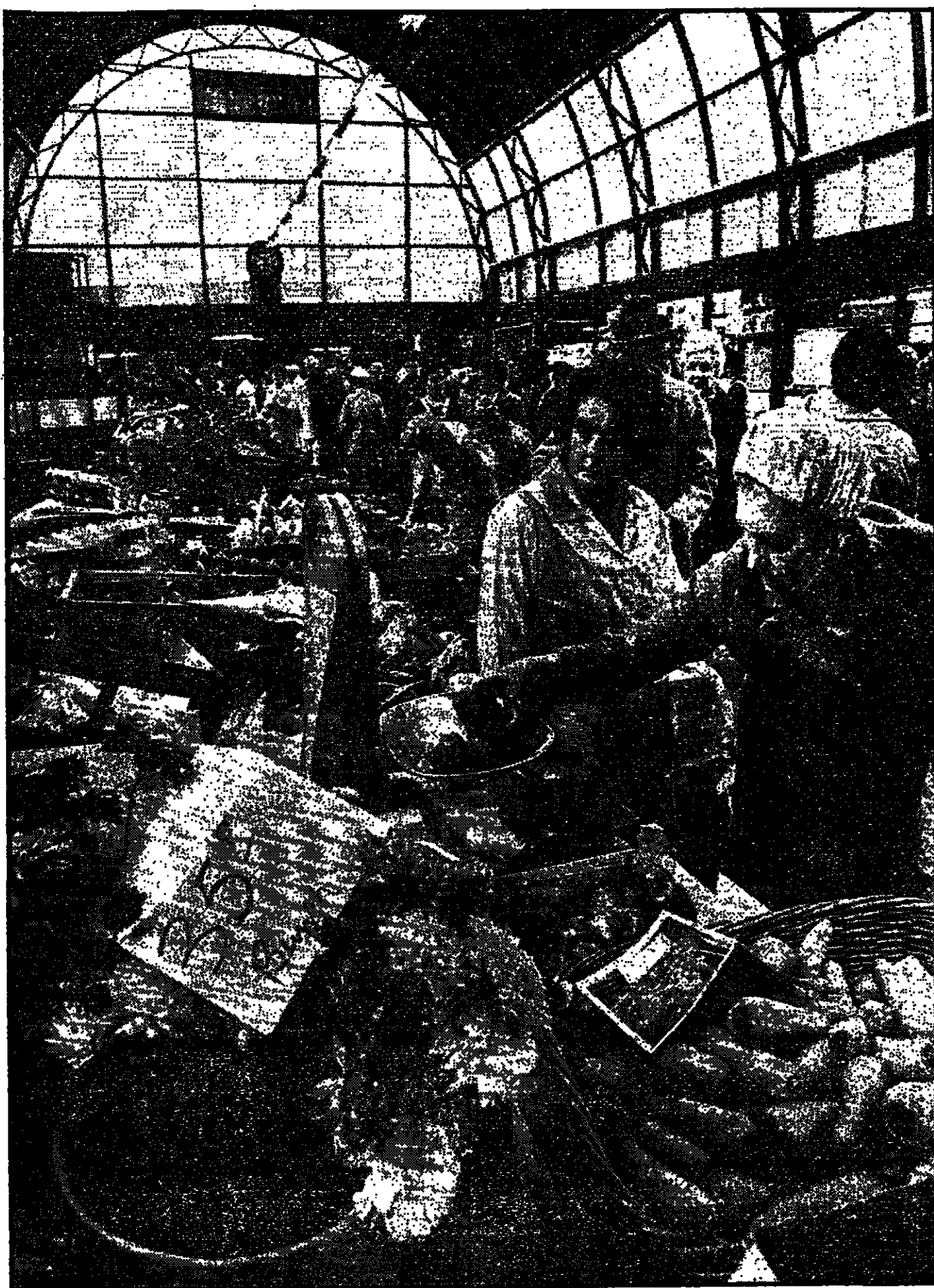
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## NEWPORT



The town's Victorian covered market has been renovated, although the town now has a modern shopping centre

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INTERNATIONAL TELEX DIRECT DIALLING	Links Telex users by Direct Dialling to 161 countries	Links Telex users by Direct Dialling to 161 countries
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PRESTEL	Local access to more than 184,000 pages of Prestel Viewdata information is available	Local access to more than 184,000 pages of Prestel Viewdata information is available
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Newport docks handle more than a million tons of cargo a year. A Severn barrage would enable larger ships to use the harbour

## Dockland goes bananas

At one time docks prospered, withered and died as the industrial tide swept over them and then retreated. That was the fate of Caerleon when the erection of a bridge over the Usk at Newport prevented tall ships reaching it.

Now harbours represent such a large investment in fixed assets that they first struggle to adapt to the times, a process helped by improved land communications making them more flexible in the products and raw materials

they can handle.

In happier days Newport exported almost 7 million tonnes of coal a year. The figure sank to zero, and has now made a modest recovery with a contract to ship 300,000 tonnes to French power stations.

A wharf which once handled coal and then switched to iron ore is now used by banana ships from Jamaica. Exports demonstrated its uncertainties when a hurricane destroyed

most of the crop last year.

But it was the troubles of the steel industry, and the closure of a Shell oil terminal, cutting petroleum imports by 200,000 tonnes, which earned 1980 the description "a difficult year" by the British Transport Docks Board. A profit of some £1.5m in 1979 became a £1,152,000 loss.

Banana trade with the West Indies has been followed by cargoes of oranges and grapefruit from Israel, and similar imports from South Africa

and Latin America. Another new line developed has been exports of scrap metal to Pakistan.

Altogether the docks have a water area of 125 acres and 18,000 ft of wharves, an entrance lock that takes vessels up to 35,000 tons, and plenty of land available for port-related industries. Being the most easterly of the board's Welsh group gives Newport something of a start for deliveries by road and rail to the Midlands and other parts of England.

In recent years it has welcomed traffic in imported tea, packaged timber and Japanese cars, and has provided handling gear and storage space for containers. But docks managers must sometimes look wistfully at the records for 1923, when tonnage totalled more than seven times that of last year, most of it exported coal and coke.

However they must live in the world as it is. In doing so they make a bold claim which some colleagues elsewhere must envy: "Much of the port's success is due to the attitude of the workforce. Newport's enviable labour relations, coupled with the ability to work a two-shift system, seven days a week, enables the port to provide efficient handling, with modern equipment of cargoes and expedite quick turnaround of vessels."

## Whiling away time

Leisure and the art of making it something better than boring idleness are likely to play an increasing part in the greatest happiness of the next decade. At the last count Gwent had 30,147 people out of work, 13,425 of them in Newport.

Against this sombre background the county council has produced a booklet entitled *Free Leisure Opportunities in Newport for the Unemployed*. Apart from sports and other pastimes, it lists such down to earth opportunities as a dress-making club, do it yourself group, and a course on Cooking on a Budget.

There is nothing cosy about this programme to help the unemployed. Caerleon Community College, located aptly enough in Cold Bath Road, offers weekly sessions on "The Economy, You and the Future."

The brochure goes on: "Will you work again? Do you want to work again? Are you able to work again? These and other questions will be looked at and discussed with the object of attempting to ascertain the needs of the economy and to ascertain your needs to fit into the economy."

Newport Council offers half-price use of sports centres at off-peak periods for the unemployed. Newport County football club set aside one afternoon a week for free use of their club premises and coaching.

Whether in work or not, the town's residents are strong supporters of local sports. Rugby being the most

famous, and of music and drama. The 400-seat Dolman Theatre in the new shopping centre is privately owned by an amateur society, Newport Playgoers. Many other companies use it for plays, opera and concerts, and there is an annual drama festival.

Cycle racing has become a local speciality. Each year the sport becomes associated with history in the Chartist road event, with contestants following the route taken by militant reformers of 1839.

In that year large crowds marched down the Monmouthshire valleys and converged on Newport. The aims of the Chartist Movement, which they supported, included a vote for every man by secret ballot. That was the stuff of revolution at the beginning of the Victorian period.

When the crowds reached the town they were routed by a company of soldiers. The leader, John Frost, was transported to Australia, but received a pardon 15 years later and returned to Britain to live to an honourable 93. He is commemorated in the modern John Frost Square, which has a lively mosaic depicting the 1839 scenes.

Newport, in conjunction with the county council, has opened a tourist information office. There has been some surprise that visitors not only ask for the quickest route to surrounding beauty spots, but also seek out some urban sights as well.

During the 75th anniversary celebrations this year of the Transporter Bridge, which

uses electric motor power to carry vehicles and people across the Usk in a suspended ferry between its lofty towers, more than 3,000 first day covers were sold. It was undoubtedly good tactics to use royal wedding stamps on them.

Another piece of industrial archaeology put to attractive use is the Monmouthshire canal, originally opened in 1798.

A picnic site has been opened at the 14 locks — three miles from the centre of Newport — which once enabled a barge to be lowered or raised 168 feet in half a mile.

## Face lifts

continued from previous page produces new ones. Among companies already helped were a betting shop and a fish bar.

Council officials say the scheme has led to a general upgrading of the road, since the work going on has encouraged even those owners who have not applied for loans or grants to spend money on their premises. Estate agents say more customers are showing interest in taking shops there and prices have improved.

The first annual review of the project comments: "The initial appraisal of improvement area action suggested the work should be done over a five-year period. At the present rate of progress it is envisaged that after the fifth

year this part of Pill should once again be a thriving, viable and attractive area.

"It may be necessary next year to compulsorily acquire some of the properties in Commercial Road which are not being improved either through the non-cooperation of the owners or where the owners are not known. After acquisition it would be possible for the council to have them improved and either leased or sold."

Such municipal enterprise would have astonished the Supertramp poet, W. H. Davies, who was born in one of what were then the mean streets of Pill. A later literary son of Newport, novelist Leslie Thomas, has written of the "unremitting terraces" he walked as a boy.

## Air and power lifelines

There are signs that the Government may be inching towards decisions on two projects which could inject thousands of millions of pounds into Newport and its neighbours on both sides of the Severn estuary. These are a tidal barrage to produce electricity, and an international airport which would rank third only to Heathrow and Gatwick.

Since the Second World War more than a dozen sites have been suggested for a Severn barrage. They range from modest proposals, in which the river's flow would be harnessed not far south of Chepstow, leaving both Bristol and Newport in the open sea, to a magnificent barrier across the Bristol Channel below Barry.

The Severn Barrage Committee, in its report in July, came out in favour of throwing the mighty concrete and rock causeway in a crooked line from Lavernock Point, between Barry and Cardiff, to Brean Down, near the Somerset resort of Weston-super-Mare. But it wants a further four-year detailed study, costing £20m, into the design and environmental implications of such a piece of engineering.

This slightly muted call to action, was greeted by the former Energy Secretary, Mr David Howell, with parliamentary caution. "The Government welcomes this thorough

report as a basis for the consultation about the complex issues involved that must now be undertaken," he told the Commons. "It looks forward to receiving comments from interested parties on those issues. Decisions, for example, about the further modes recommended in the report will then be taken in the light of such a public debate."

As the estimated cost of the scheme is between £5,000m and £6,000m there are good reasons for caution. Particularly since it would take about 10 years to complete, and Britain's record of controlling costs and keeping to schedule on public works is, at best, variable.

At £500m (some estimates are only half that figure), the international airport sounds a bargain. Like the barrage, it is an idea that has been afloat for some time. But it too has become topical again in the light of renewed controversy over proposals to develop Stansted airport to take pressure off Heathrow.

Gwent County Council have offered to provide the inspector presiding over the Stansted inquiry with an up-to-date report on proposals to locate a new airport off the coast not far from Newport. It would replace existing

continued on next page

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## Air and power lifelines

Continued from previous page

airports near Cardiff and Bristol. Fifteen years ago Professor Anthony Goss suggested an airport on stilts in this area of shallow water known as the Welsh Grounds, between Newport and Chepstow. At times it has been linked with another long-running planning idea, the development of what was described as a maritime industrial development area in other words, a new port complex. The Gwent coastline was in the running for that, in competition with the Maplin Sands and a South Wales Europort Project Society was formed in 1973.

The latest ideas on the airport envisage draining a large area of the shallow estuarine flats. Mr Graham Powell, a member of the Severn Barrage Committee, said last year: "Some 5,000 acres should be readily reclaimable, with potential for further long-term expansion. Clearly the use of reclaimed land from the estuary has an enormous benefit in reducing to a minimum the need to use agricultural land."

The airport site would most likely be reclaimed by dredging. Fill from the approaches to Newport, thereby deepening the channel and enabling the further development of major port and industrial enterprises.

Such an airport would probably generate more permanent jobs than building a barrage. It is estimated up to 27,000 people would find work through a barrage, including some 6,000 who would benefit from the general demand for local services.

The principal benefit from a barrage, which would require a staff of 500 to run it after construction, would be power generated from 160 turbines operated by the ebbing tide. The scheme favoured by the committee would supply an estimated six per cent of the country's electricity needs.

Turbines would be mounted in the barrage wall. The "building blocks" of this would be caissons weighing about 90,000 tonnes each. Two large ships' locks would have to be incorporated to enable ships to reach Newport, Cardiff and Bristol. The higher level of water behind the barrier would make it easier for large vessels to use the ports.

But there would also be problems. Low lying land would be subject to flooding unless special pumping was provided and sea defences

strengthened. The disposal of sewage and industrial waste would be more difficult in the absence of the present high tides up the estuary. Naturalists are worried about the effect on wildlife, for the area is used as winter quarters by several varieties of wading birds.

However it would be safer for sailing, and an explosion in the demand for moorings and other services for small boats would be likely to follow any barrage scheme.

It is as difficult to assess the economic value of the barrage scheme as it is to guess what the price of fuel will be in 20 years' time. The Severn Barrage Committee said in its report: "The decision to build or not to build must always be an act of faith." However, the barrage would be so valuable in the event of serious energy problems in the future that the committee recommended a further four-year study.

In the course of this study, it suggested it might be necessary to build a prototype caisson, and then test it in place in the estuary.

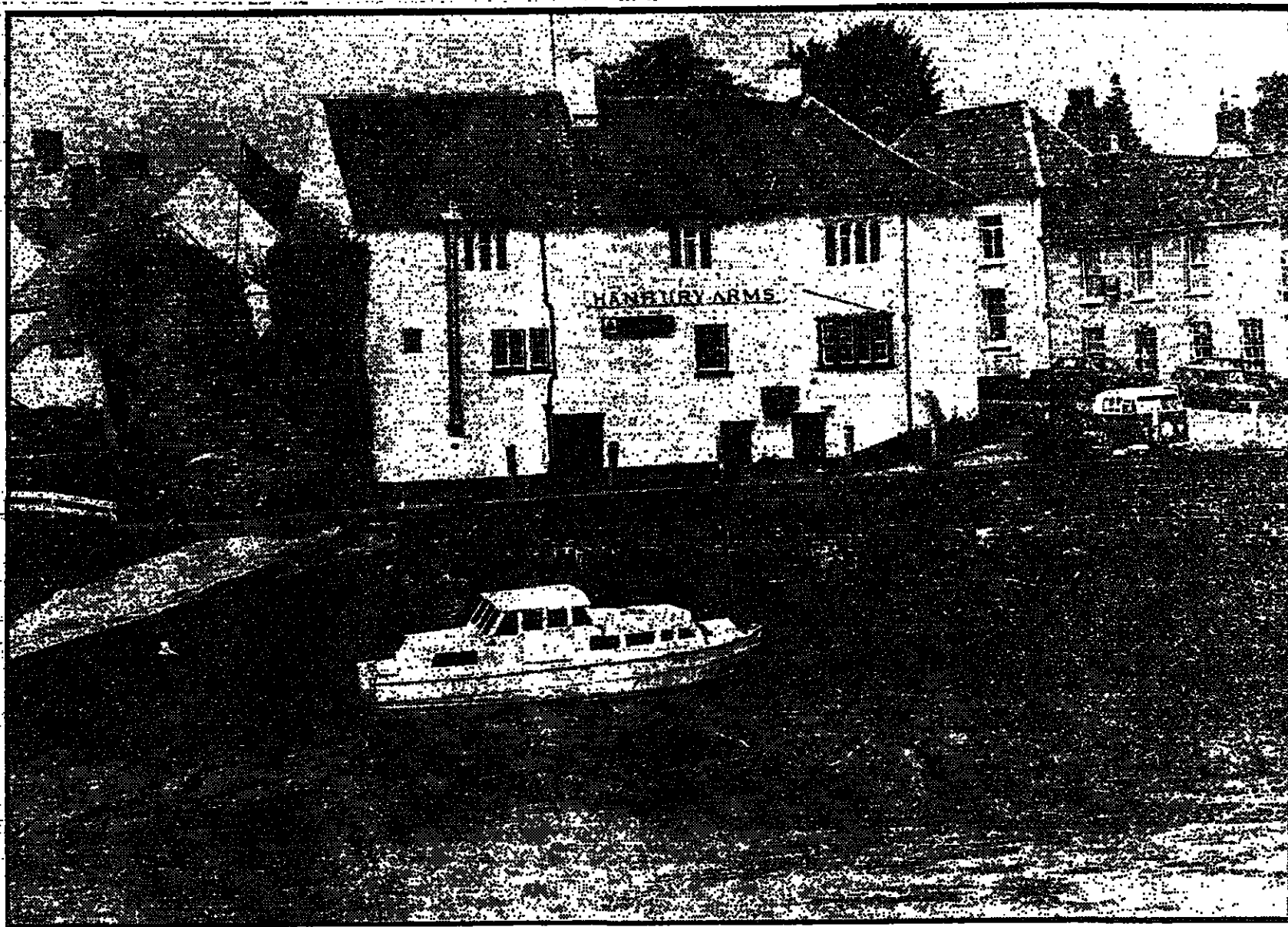
The committee said a barrage lower down the estuary would produce more electricity, as much as 10 per cent of the national demand. But it would also add more than £3,000m to the cost.

Newport has taken a keen interest in all the twists and turns of the history of the Severn project. A report last year on how the port would benefit said: "At present, the operational tide is about three hours either side of high water, producing a maximum operational time of 12 hours in any day."

The higher level of water upstream of the barrage would result in the majority of ships being able to enter or leave port at virtually any time of day, and very large vessels being able to enter or leave at high water. A barrage would also reduce the time a ship had to stay in dock, thus giving a more efficient use of dockside plant.

The report concluded: "If the Severn Barrage was constructed in the near future there would be considerable benefits to Newport, primarily those of increased trade and employment leading to the establishment of Newport as a larger commercial centre."

"It would appear that there is merit in supporting a Severn Barrage proposal, particularly in the light of the urgent need to increase employment prospects in the area."



The poet Tennyson, musing on King Arthur, stayed at this inn at Caerleon

## Twilight of the Arthurian legend

Newport received its name early in the Middle Ages when it superseded the old port of Caerleon, three miles up the tidal Usk. There the remains of a tower still guard what was once the dock area, also overlooked more benignly by the Hanbury Arms.

It was while staying at this inn that Tennyson wrote in 1856: "The Usk murmurs by the window and I sit like King Arthur at Caerleon. This is a most quiet village of about 1,500 inhabitants with a little museum of Roman tombstones and other things."

He had come there alone during a family holiday in Wales. He claimed to be

seeking inspiration for *Idylls of the King*, but it was more likely he wanted to get away from the children for a few days. Schoolboy recollections are that the *Idylls* wound their endless way with little sign of inspiration.

"For Arthur on the Whitsuntide before  
Held court at old Caerleon  
upon Usk"

are not stirring lines, and even less so are

"Pardon: but will ye to Caerleon? I  
Go likewise: shall I lead you to the King?"

Such Arthurian tushery, seems far removed from the poet who wrote *In Memoriam*.

Perhaps the reason was that the large mound outside the town then called King Arthur's Round Table proved, on excavation, to contain the remains of a Roman amphitheatre for 6,000 spectators.

That was the site of the Second Augustan Legion which arrived in AD 74 and established its headquarters at Caerleon, from which it controlled the fierce local people, the Silures. The amphitheatre was built about the same time as the Colosseum in Rome, and it is thought galleys from the heart of the Empire penetrated up the Usk.

Some relics of those days can be seen at the museum mentioned by Tennyson, while others are embedded in the fabric of local houses. Builders in succeeding periods often used the amphitheatre and other stone edifices as a quarry for materials.

Archaeologists have been at work in the place for more than a century. It was young Dr Mortimer Wheeler, then director of the National Museum of Wales, who uncovered the amphitheatre, with the help of his wife, in 1926 and 1927. But much of Roman Caerleon now lies under later developments.

Surely this must be the only town to have a Catholic church dedicated to Julius, Aaron and David. The first two are said to have been martyred in the town by the Romans. The patron of the parish church, St Cadoc, is almost as venerable, for the first church on the site was founded in the sixth century.

Discovery of Roman Caerleon did not, of course, prove conclusively that Tennyson was wrong in following local legends associating it with King Arthur and his knights. That elusive character may have been a Roman-British chieftain who took over when the legions left Britain and the long twilight in our history began.

He was president of nearly all Newport's Societies. He made many gifts to the town, but was probably most popular for the annual celebration of Balclava Day in October, when his estate workers were served roast beef, plum pudding and beer.

His successors lived in the grand manner until the taxmen put a stop to it. The last to cut much of a dash was Godfrey's great-nephew, Evan, who dabbled in poetry and novel-writing, kept a suite of rooms at London's Cavendish Hotel in the 1920s, and married successively a film actress and a Russian princess.

## Millionaires and Morgans

The Morgans of Tredegar House were powerful landowners for five centuries. Indeed, when the Romans left Wales and it was divided among warring chieftains, Newport was included in the kingdom of the Morgannwg. But this is probably just coincidence, for the family which emerged in the fifteenth century is believed to have had humble origins.

In St Woollo's Cathedral, which looks down on the town from the top of Stow Hill, are fragments of an alabaster effigy of Sir John Morgan, Knight of the Holy Sepulchre, who died in 1493. In the grounds of Tredegar House, west of Newport, stands a memorial to Sir Briggs. This "knight" was only a horse, but he deserved to be commemorated, for he carried Captain Godfrey Morgan safely through the Charge of the Light Brigade at Balclava in 1854.

The Morgans were an intrepid family, but were finally brought low by the Inland Revenue. Death duties, and extravagance, made such inroads into their capital that the last of the male line, John, Sixth Baron Tredegar, sold up.

Industrial expansion in the nineteenth century brought new power and wealth to the Morgans. They leased land for ironworks and collieries, promoted the cutting of canals, and at one time charged a penny a ton toll on loads carried along a tramway.

Sir Charles Morgan, whose statue can be seen in a park not far from St Woollo's, provided the land on which Commercial Street and Commercial Road were built to the Pill wharves and Tredegar docks, also owned by the family. His son was created a baron in 1859, and the Captain Godfrey who rode Sir Briggs succeeded him in 1875.

It was said of Godfrey: "He was president of nearly all Newport's Societies." He made many gifts to the town, but was probably most popular for the annual celebration of Balclava Day in October, when his estate workers were served roast beef, plum pudding and beer.

His successors lived in the grand manner until the taxmen put a stop to it. The last to cut much of a dash was Godfrey's great-nephew, Evan, who dabbled in poetry and novel-writing, kept a suite of rooms at London's Cavendish Hotel in the 1920s, and married successively a film actress and a Russian princess.

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## Television

## Nothing to hide

Television resounds with history and drama this week. On Monday, ITV's *Brideshead Revisited*, tonight the BBC's long journey into the Borgias labyrinth, and, last night, Chekhov's *The Cherry Orchard*, written within intellectual slanting of the eclipse of traditional Russian society. It is a generous play for actors in that it affords each of them significant opportunity; challenging in that action is so minimal that there is no concealment in this excellent production, not was necessary all opportunities were taken.

Judi Dench, as Madame Ransky, the centrepiece of this embattled little group of the reckless and mainly feckless — the exception being Bill Peterson's admirable, acquisitive peasant, Lopakhin, about to inherit all — gave a well-modulated performance, slipping without pause from charm to brief querulousness, from gaiety to sorrow, acceptably maternal but quite believably a mistress. Not Russian in the grand manner, perhaps, but quite convincing.

Anton Lesser's Trofimov presented a student prophet, enthusiastic about the cataclysmic changes to come but not unsympathetic for the victims unable to see their immediate and less calamitous loss of home and orchard in his intellectual perspective. Epikhodov, the fumbling, stumbling clerk, could quite easily be mistaken for the victim Spall made him properly pathetic, touching the self-conscious hopelessness of one doomed to ineptitude. Paul Curran's first epitomized the selfless servant for whom service is all and life at the end is nothing.

This new version by Trevor Griffiths, from a translation by Helen Rappaport, was originally commissioned by Richard Eyre for the Nottingham Playhouse and it was by whom they got the opportunity to put it on film.

"Looked at rationally," says Lopakhin at one point in the play, "life is meaningless." But rationally is not his common sense as we might think nor compassion either, which Granada's three-part series, *Rich World, Poor World*, invites. Last night's *Business as Usual* focused on the trades between North and South, which benefits the former and extent increasingly repressed by the latter.

Next week 25 leaders from both will be meeting at a world summit which has stemmed from the Brandt Commission on International Development and Granada have thoughtfully prepared the way for those at home who might find the word "summit" a deterrent.

One of the issues was stated quite simply: one quarter of the world's population enjoy four-fifths of the wealth. The commodities the poorer nations sell tend — with that well-felt exception, oil — to drop in price and to devalue the trickle of dollars they receive. The attempt to grow and sell cash crops marginalizes their population and sacrifices land that should be supplying food. In short, they have not the stakes for the future when the reality is not loss of life-style but loss of life.

Maybe at the Mexico summit something will be done about their survival. If so, it will be unique among international conferences tackling one aspect or another of this problem. Granada, however, in this excellent series, have done their bit.

Dennis Hackett

One of the most important of Brague's late paintings, *Atelier VIII*, has been lent to the Tate Gallery for a two-year period by Mr Douglas Cooper, joint organizer of the gallery's forthcoming exhibition *The Essential Cubism*. It will hang at the Tate throughout 1982, the centenary of the artist's birth.

**SIMON PATRICK GALLOWAY REEVE**  
**DEONCEAUX'S**  
**Rollercoaster of a Comedy**

**BALLET**

**Was Ever Rancier Funnier?**

## Cinema

## The tin-can epic

Germany's own view of the submarine war has been turned into a costly — and controversial — film. George Perry reports.

Germany's most costly film, the controversial *Das Boot* (The Boat), directed by Wolfgang Petersen, has just had its world premiere at the Munich Film Festival. In spite of the unanimous ovation that came at its end, and its obvious integrity, it is still the target of attacks from the left for not taking a clear anti-war line.

Its source is a 12-year-old best-selling novel by Lothar-Günter Buchheim, based on his experiences as a war correspondent on U-96. His account of the lives of submariners became a sort of German equivalent to Monsarrat's *The Cruel Sea*. It tells of the sub-chasing corvette sailing on the surface, and has sold to date some two million copies in 16 languages. Hollywood tried to film it, but deemed that some Nazi villains had to be injected into the script, as well as familiar American actors, to make it more palatable in the United States.

When Günter Rohrbach became head of the Bavaria Film Studios, which were to co-produce the film, he was determined that it should be an all-German production. He engaged Wolfgang Petersen, a director who had forged his reputation making low-budget thrillers for television, to produce a script and to direct what would inevitably be an expensive production. By means of a television deal, which would inflate the cinema film to a six-hour version from its original 135 minutes, a record budget of DM25m has been achieved. The original German film had cost no much more, but it was a hard film to make.

Two new U-boats had to be built to full scale from drawings of a Type VII C disintegrated from museums, including the German Navy's Museum in Chicago. One was for filming at sea, the other for interiors in the studio. Petersen demanded that the actors should work within the same space as the original submariners; there were no walls to float out of

the way to give the camera a better angle. Even U-boat lighting was used, with photofloods occasionally substituting for the normal tungsten bare bulbs. His cinematographer, Jost Vacano, invented a gyroscopic mount for a hand-held Arriflex enabling him even to run along the narrow gangway, following the crew to action stations, without camera shake. Some 90 per cent of the shipboard footage was shot hand-held. "It was a dream job for a cameraman," Petersen says — although Vacano often had to wear a crash helmet, and elbow, knee and shin pads like an ice hockey player.

The film follows a patrol of U-96 in 1941, the so-called "Happy Time", when convoys of war materials and food to Britain were easy prey. The crew is young, mostly still in late teens and early twenties, but the captain "Der Alte", played by Jürgen Prochnow, is 30 and looks 10 years older. Those who have sailed before are cynical — an opening title has stated the chilling fact that of 40,000 men in the U-boat service, 30,000 never returned — while the novices are bristled with excitement and pride at being in an elite section of the German navy.

The discomforts of submarine life are hard to imagine. The boat is so narrow a tall man can touch both sides without outstretching arms. There is no privacy, and the captain's cabin is only a desk behind a curtain off the companionway. Bunks have to be shared on a shift basis. Supplies are stored anywhere

there is room — even the torpedo compartment is festooned with hams and sausages, and black bread which so quickly goes mouldy at sea that only the inner part of a loaf can be eaten. There is only one "head" for 43 officers and men. No one can take a bath or shower and clothes never get changed. Men learn to sleep in the din and blaring lights.

Not surprisingly the camaraderie in such a claustrophobic existence is a weapon against *Blechkoller*, the submariner's "tin-can neurosis". The crew grow beards, wear the scruffiest of clothes and relish the songs of the enemy, such as "Tipperary" and "J'Attendrai".

The captain practises deep diving until the plates creep and rivets pop. The training proves important when a destroyer drops depth charges on them, shaking the craft so violently that the boat becomes a metal torture chamber. After 45 days at sea, enduring dreadful Atlantic storms that they welcome because they keep aircraft away, dodging enemy ASDIC and radar, they sight and attack a convoy. The captain orders a blazing tanker to be sunk. As the torpedoes are dispatched he realizes that there are still men on board, and regrets his action, which follows an order from Dönitz that no chance must be given for ships to be salvaged.

His boat is bombed by the RAF and sinks to the bottom, a death far beyond its design capability, and with the air growing increasingly ferid the captain waits for hours while the engines are repaired. The U-boat then limps back to La Rochelle, its base, and a heroes' welcome. The joy comes to an abrupt end as an Allied air attack kills the crew and sinks U-96 in its dock.

Prochnow, like Petersen, was born in 1941. "I am not a militarist," he says. "My father was a Russian prisoner and would never talk of the war. When we made this film we found out why people fought, and what they were."

## Interview

## Lynn Farleigh's little miracle



Unnerving statistics about the London theatre are seldom hard to come by, but it is still faintly chilling to discover that at present, of forty mainstream West End playhouses, only five are currently housing modern British plays which are neither farces nor thrillers; the total ten years ago was double that, and twenty years ago it was double again. Some cause, therefore, to welcome Colin Brown's new *London* management, which has a distinct commitment to latter-day drama in the commercial theatre; his first production, *Rose*, had a long and successful run at the Duke of York's last year before transferring with Glenda Jackson to Broadway, while his second, *Harvest*, opens at the Ambassadors this evening.

Though by different authors and with different casts, the two plays do have a certain amount in common: the same director, Alan Dossor, the same contemporary Midlands setting, and a cast-list again headed by a woman, in this case Lynn Farleigh making her commercial-theatre starring debut after a long and distinguished career with the subsidized companies and on the fringe. But *Harvest* is more of a company play than a solo star vehicle; it concerns the pressures that build up in a close-knit family when their beliefs and prejudices are challenged. It shifts in time and place from school days to adulthood, from a family funeral to harvest celebrations, from the home to the village chapel.

But it does of course represent a considerable investment risk: a new and unknown play by a new and unknown dramatist (Ellen Dryden started out as an actress in Shavian revivals at the Mermaid before turning to radio and television scripts) with a distinctly non-star cast and no subsidized backing, means flying without a safety net at a time when comparable risks (*Duet for One*, *Educating Rita*) have almost always been taken first by a pub theatre or a major permanent company.

Considering all of which, the cast remain remarkably cool, calm and collected: "We know that we've got a marvelous play to do, and precisely because there are so few like it around we think we've got a good chance," says Lynn Farleigh. "I in fact first read *Harvest* four years ago, when I was on an Arts Council panel judging a playwrighting contest. This one came up, and although it didn't win (because the contest was specifically about dramatic innovation and new techniques) I was so impressed by it that I wanted to ring up the author and ask if I could play it somewhere. But my nerve failed me and I never did, and three years later by a sort of miracle it turned up in the post. I was determined not to do a play in the West End until I could find one that I actually wanted to live with for six months or more, supposing we were to have a success. I can't think of anything more awful than

having a success with a play that bores you after the first few weeks of the run."

Now just about to turn forty, Lynn Farleigh has been in the business twenty years and has spent only three months of that time unintentionally out of work; her arrival at the Ambassadors will however mark only her fourth West End appearance, the other three being in the recent National Theatre transfer of *The Crucible* to the Comedy, the Prospect season at the Albany and before that her appearance in a touring Christmas play of mind-bending awfulness several years ago. The daughter of a West Country grocer, she grew up with an aunt who taught elocution at a school in Sidford, and came from there to weekend drama classes in Bristol from the age of seven. Her teacher there was the legendary Eileen Herley-Hodder, who had previously trained both Barbara Efford and Margaret Whiting as children.

"She kept sending me off to Eisteddfods at which I was always terrible and invariably came fourth. I was really very bad but I ploughed on, and at 15 I got the title role in *Macbeth*, called *Cones* and suddenly it all seemed to come together and I began to feel good and think that maybe I could survive on the stage after all."

"But everyone at home kept telling me it was a terrible life, so in the end I got into the Guildhall on a drama-teacher-training course which was the one for which they gave out grants. But in those days at the Guildhall they only separated the would-be teachers from the would-be actors for about two classes a week and the rest of the time we were all in there together."

It was at the Guildhall that she started working with Michael Jayston (whom she later and briefly married) in a partnership which was to take them from an end-of-term *Separate Tables* on into the Royal Shakespeare Company. "Reggie Salberg gave me a year in the Salisbury Rep, working my way up from ASM to a production of *Under Milk Wood*. But I was an awful juvenile lead and at the end of the season they didn't ask me back, so I went to Canterbury where we did old Peggy Mount farces in the

dying days of that sort of Rep. After I was Queen Cat in the pantomime to Richard Murdoch's Dame that year seemed to dry up, and so I came back to London and wrote to every director I had ever heard of asking for work."

"The only one to reply was Ken Loach, who said I could have two days' work as a policewoman in *2 Cars* which he was then directing; although I didn't speak I did get to hand tea to one of the prisoners, and afterwards the producer asked me if I could talk at all because they were looking for a new girl to play 'Z Victor One' and sit with the earphones on the switchboard; so then I did a whole series like that."

"From that I went on to understudy Anna Neagle in a terrible thriller in which then I was the Dalek and then, thank God, the RSC auditioned me at a time when they were already taking Michael on and they liked me. Michael was *Exeter* in the *Henry* and I got into Theatreground, touring schools with Mike Leigh's improvisations."

After three years with the RSC she had worked her way up to a minor *Company* *Tragedy* when in 1967 it was decided to take *The Homecoming* to Broadway. As both Ian Holm and Vivien Merchant were required at Stratford, their roles were taken over for a time by Jayston and Lynn Farleigh.

"Broadway didn't care for us at first, and I remember at the opening-night party all the Americans left after the reviews hit the streets. But Jules Feiffer loved us, and we knew how good the play was so we stuck it out to say 'gradually the word-of-mouth spread and audiences began to get better and better.'"

Then it was back to the RSC, to a *Hollow Crown* tour and to work with Terry Hands, who told her that she had a line of confidence and courage still to cross: "I was crippled by that awful English thing of not wanting to be noticed; not wanting to make an exhibition; I was always desperate to please the director and the writer and the rest of the cast, and it took me years to learn that you also have to act for yourself if you're going to be any good."

Sheridan Morley



"The Boat": discomforts hard to imagine

Petersen has been attacked by the right as well as the left, and some elderly Germans have been distressed by his portrayal of the cynicism, indiscipline, scruffiness and irreverence for the High Command that occurred at sea. He went to enormous lengths to get the facts right, and the original captain of U-96, in his seventies, approved what he had done. Petersen is particularly proud that many of the black-and-white stills from the film are so like some of the 5,000 photographs Buchheim took on U-boats during the war that even the experts have been confused.

"We wanted to make a German war film with total honesty towards our past," said Petersen on the morning

after the opening. "Not a film that was thinking all the time of the Nazi problem and German guilt. Can you make heroes of people wearing the swastika? There hasn't been a picture that did that in Germany since the war. The big thing is that this film is shot from the German point of view. It does not discuss Nazi ideology because that is not the subject. The story is of men — those who are killed, those who survive only as psychological cripples. It is a close-up of war."

The Americans are impressed with the film in spite of the fact that it does not star Clint Eastwood or Burt Reynolds as the submarine commander. During later stages of production Petersen

was elated when Mark Damon, the president of Producers Sales Organization, saw footage and immediately bought the film. "We don't normally handle foreign-language films, but this one was so exceptional that I'm convinced it is the most important war film to come from anywhere in this generation," said Damon in the euphoria of the premiere party. "Yes, you can mention *On the Beach* and *Glory* and *Bridge on the River Kwai*. This one's up there!"

He has sold *The Boat* to Columbia and hopes that it will open in the United States in time for Academy Award nominations, with a British release in the spring or summer of next year.

## Concerts

## Frankfurt RSO/Inbal

## Festival Hall/Radio 3

Although Eliahu Inbal is well known here as a conductor, this is the first time that he has visited us with his own orchestra. From the Hessischer Rundfunk in Germany, during the seven years that he has been in charge of it. Some of their records together are available here, notably a fine set of Scriabin's symphonies.

On the South Bank on Monday their principal offering was Mahler's sixth symphony, which they preceded with the four Sea Interludes from Britten's *Peter Grimes*. The compliment to their host-country was well taken; we could appreciate the precision of the full orchestra, and the emotional engagement of the reading, in the Storm interlude, the close attention to detail in "Sunday Morning". The Dawn interlude sounded less chill and biting than those familiar with the North Sea coast expect it to be.

Mahler's sixth symphony is the one in which the hero is felled by three hammer-blows of fate, towards the end of a finale that is a masterpiece of extended, elaborate, highly inventive design. The music as a whole is grim and violent, though it has its contrasts in the passionate windswept second subject of the first movement, an idealized portrait of the composer's wife or of the scherzo's first trio section which represents the play of their two small daughters.

It is partly autobiographical, even prophetic, since the "hammer-blows" fell on Mahler after the symphony was completed. Inbal and his Frankfurters treated us to a performance of astonishing vividness and passion, clearly prepared with the utmost care, executed with triumphant exactitude of ensemble.

They plunged into the opening march at top speed, ablaze with determination and a fiendish gusto that was even surpassed when the gruesome, dark, elaborate scherzo arrived. The orchestra's tutti sound was immediate and weighty, with powerful brass to sustain the clean, handsome string tone, and the firmly balanced woodwind.

Musical detail was precisely judged, the offstage cowbells clearly audible, violin glissandi not too quick to make effect, the hammer the noisiest and most substantial that I have heard (only twice, as Mahler superlatively decided). The scherzo's structure was given room to expand. William Mann

## Luxon/Willison

## St John's/Radio 3

As October winds blow, the BBC's lunchtime concerts are back again, offering an hour's retreat in the cosiness of one's home, or in the candle-lit elegance of St John's Smith Square. And what cozier way to begin than with Vaughan Williams's *Songs of Travel*, the character of whose elevated parlour-settings, of Robert Lums Stevenson's equally cosy verse, was caught to a nicety on Monday by that consummate balladeer Benjamin Luxon and his deftly sensitive accompanist David Willison.

Mr Luxon, a faraway look in his eyes, would certainly be a sturdy, tightly-pointed energy, there a warm glow of recollection, a line of evenly-controlled stillness from his richly resonant baritone and from the songs themselves. From the dark, crude tang of leather to the reflective interiors ("Faces in the Firelight", "Birds Twisting in the Chimney") each song was projected with warm affection and much detail of colour and texture.

Mr Willison's constantly imaginative and sensitively supportive piano-playing emphasized the darker world of distant longings and restlessness of spirit that underlies the "Fireside" and wanderings of a nicely complementary group of Schubert songs. His tensely economic accompaniment to the "Erlkönig" was not quite matched in the sense of a child's suspense by a rather vocally spread, gothic rendering by Mr Luxon; though, in the sprightly rhythmic pointing and disarming simplicity of "Der Wanderer an den Mond", they were more in accord.

This was very much a Wanderer and later a "Musesohn" with Lederhosen; but the more sophisticated side of Mr Luxon's art was revealed in a mellifluously phrased "Canyned" and an affectively stark, dark portrait of lost happiness in "Erster Verlust". Hilary Finch

**MUFFED GIRLS**

On its own terms it cannot be faulted

GLOBE THEATRE

## The Maids

## Lyric Studio, Hammersmith

In English, productions of plays by Jean Genet are all too often the raw idea of a play, carefully enunciated statements of his intention as seen through the translations of Bernard Frechtman. One of his intentions was that men should take the roles of women in *The Maids*. A curious layer of his homo sexuality demanded that his idea of two serving maids and their mistress should be presented with the added tension of men in frocks. Clare Davidson has done that in her production, but with Frechtman's translation as well the effect is of staging a concept.

Other concepts are also at

## Hotel Amigo

## Tricycle Theatre

The Mike Westbrook Brass Band begins its latest "jazz cabaret" behind a gauze screen, facing the dancers and drivers at the imaginary Hotel Amigo, the musicians' backs turned to the real audience. The hotel's patrons are fed their diet of kitsch: "Volare", "Y Viva Espana" and "Copacabana"; from time to time, however, the musicians emerge into the far side of the gauze, descend to the cozier precincts of the dressing-room (in this case, the real stage), doff their jackets, loosen their ties and present a typically Westbrookian musical kaleidoscope.

No explanation is offered, but perhaps we may take it that what we hear in the dressing-room is the private music of performers forced by circumstance into back work, their collective sub-

## Theatre

conscious represented by the disparate aggregation of "What a Wonderful World", a collection of Westbrook's treatments of Blake's poetry, a medley of bebop tunes, "Brother Can You Spare Dime?", several original pieces by Mike and Kate Westbrook, and Sullivan's setting of "The Lost Chord".

The likelihood of such an intention is increased right at the end of the show, when the band turns, for the first time, to face the audience head on and bursts into "Ain't We Got Fun". At that moment we become the denizens of the Hotel Amigo, and our response to this loaded reversal must be ambiguous.

Westbrook's familiar combination of post-Coltrane jazz with two-beat cabaret music and various offbeat excursions into verse and Victorian is perfectly suited to such an ironic context. Individual contributions stick in the mind, such as the growing difficulty of separating Phil Minton's expressive trumpet, playing from his astonishing repertoire of vocal contortions, and a series of saxophone improvisations by Chris Biscoe of quite outstanding ferocity. Kate Westbrook is developing a range of vocal gestures to match Minton's, and Dave Barry affirmed his uniquely appropriate response to the problems of playing drums in this unconventional setting.

Each asset was, as usual, enhanced by organizational touches: the restrained crossfade from saxophones to piano at the interstice of "Raised Voices" and "Wonderful World", the multi-faceted arrangement of "Heart Throb", a striking new song resembling a lullaby heard in a nightmare.

This last led into "Wasteground and Weeds", a disturbing evocation of a bleak, rain-soaked East End, brilliantly interpreted by the two singers and fully indicative of Westbrook's constantly expanding scope.

but move and speak with masculine habits, only sometimes to intense effect. One effect that eludes them is the pretence of being the mistresses, and even the star Clint Eastwood or Burt Reynolds as the submarine commander. During later stages of production Petersen

That becomes particularly obvious in the sassy, androgynous appearance of Mark Rylance as Madame. Neither does he act like a woman, but he could as well be Genet's image of one. Despite the intelligence of the other performances, and moments of rhetorical passion, there are too many layers of cold distance. Much of what Genet wanted to say about servitude, oppression and the specific relationship between murder and self-murder is clear, but it has no effect.

Ned Chaillet

## Jazz

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Richard Williams

## London debuts

## Versatile range of harp sounds

Three instrumentalists chosen for this year's South East Arts Young Musicians' Platform all look likely to benefit from their two years of free promotion within and around the area. Ruth Eaber is a harpist of more than ordinary skill, able to draw a rich perspective of sounds from her instrument: there were sharp, forceful tones as well as the twinkling chimes, clearly shaped lines as well as hazes and glissandos.

She began with amusingly sturdy performances of three Spanish renaissance pieces, and then showed how her purposeful manner is coupled with a sure feeling for colour in a Fanny Sonata and William Mathias's *Three Improvisations*. And, lest one suppose that her inclusion of Tournier's *Au matin* was a mere token bow to the more conventionally angelic style of harp writing, she ended her recital with a breathtakingly colourful account of Carlos Salzedo's *Song in the Night*, where she revealed how many different kinds of glissando

the harp can produce. She also took firmly in her stride the work's occasional leaps into percussion playing on the body of the instrument.

Karen Biscoe, an appealing, straightforward and serious-minded young pianist, was at her best in sonatas by Scarlatti and Haydn. Occasionally she was tempted to lean on plangent chords more than really works well in eighteenth-century music, but her performance of Scarlatti's "Car's Fugue" was beautifully mobile, and in Haydn's early A flat sonata she discovered a wealth of inwardly turned imaginative dexterity. Her use of the same style in Prokofiev's second sonata brought certain rewards, but this was a work that properly needed more projection.

Helen Duffy, playing the flute, was in a sense a more extrovert musician, and certainly spared no efforts to secure variety of tone, but it sometimes seemed that her effects and her phrasing were too well premeditated. In Debussy's *Syrinx*, for in-

stance, I admired the boldness of her changes of speed, pressure and timbre, even when the results were questionable, but there was little sense of the spontaneity so essential to this piece. A Handel sonata and Copland's *Duo* were more successful because more accommodating to preconception, and Miss Duffy finished with a marvelously flamboyant account of the waltz from Godard's *Suite de trois morceaux*.

The American violinist Stephanie Chase made a stimulating debut in her performance of Mozart's D major Concerto, K 218, with the English Baroque Orchestra under Leon Lovett. Her tone was appropriately sly and sinewy for this music, but her eloquence and her willingness to take risks brought an almost vocal expressiveness to everything she played. One was even prepared to forgive her outrageous cadenza to the first movement when all the virtuoso tricks were so ardently meaningful.

Paul Griffiths



## Environmental briefing

Last week more than 5,000 acres of state-owned forest were put on sale as part of the Government's "privatization" plans. A further 14,000 acres, from Farebrother in west Scotland to part of Savernake in Wiltshire, have been named for possible sale to cut Forestry Commission costs.

Not for several hundreds of years has there been so much woodland in Great Britain. And never has the state of our woodland been so parlous. We have more than twice the acreage of woodland than we inherited at the turn of the century. But we have lost nearly a quarter of a million hectares of traditional woodland, the sort of woodland people actually enjoy, in the same period.

That, simply, is the problem faced by conservationists in what is developing into a fine old controversy about the future of Britain's forest inheritance. It is an argument which has raged, off and on, since John Evelyn, diarist and forester, wrote *Silva*, or, a Discourse of Forest-Trees in 1662.

It is an argument in which class, finance, politics and temperance have all had their say, not least because though the love of trees comes to most people, it has usually required men of means to do it. It is an argument in which only the trees are silent.

According to forest historians, Britain was once almost wholly forest. Only extreme bogs and mountains were exempt from forest cover 5,000 years ago; and it was forest of a far more varied kind, than is often supposed. The shades of ancient wood which remain testify to distinctions and variations which tell a story of tree species and their liking of wet or dry, clay or limestone, hot or cold. What may be assumed to be the remnants of the Wildwood (as Oliver Rackham named the phenomenon) give the Chilterns their leechwoods. It also gave Scotland its oakwoods and birchwoods, and the remains of the Scots pine forest.

Our Stone Age ancestors, with their slash-and-burn agricultural technique began a process which the industrial revolutions, especially of the sixteenth century and onward, continued: they burned the Wildwood. In so doing, they made the heathland and the moors; the "natural" wilderness we now prize.

What remained became increasingly populated. The interests of pasture for domestic animals (a great deal of it in forest glades and rides), of hunting, and of wood as a crop, all combined in various degrees.

More than 90 per cent of worked woodland was under a form of coppicing, the remains of which in the form of coppice characterise the kinds of scrappy woodlands we see from Epping Forest to any local copse. A coppice wood utilized the characteristic of deciduous trees to renew themselves.

It was a system which thrived on the industry of the woodworker, and which effectively passed on to us small packets of the Wildwood extant, as against the plantation system (the grotesque descendant of Evelyn's injunction to plant trees) which encourages sterile monoculture. From the thirteenth century on,



Lime, oak, and alder: three of the victims of Britain's modern farming and forestry techniques. Oak was always the prime forest tree, though now being planted in some quantity; it has a long way to go before it retrieves its position as hero of the mixed woodland. Lime was the mainstay of coppice woodland, and has suffered a huge decline as labour-intensive woodland management has become virtually extinct. Alder was one of the commonest British trees; it was important in coppice woods, but also on the marginal land which has now often been "improved" by drainage.

## Who will plant the oaks of the future?

the woodland came under increasing pressure from agriculture: peasant and landowner alike eroded the woodland stock. By Evelyn's day, there might have been about a million hectares of woodland left. "What woods there were by then was still the ancient semi-natural woodland", says Dr George Peterken, the Nature Conservancy Council's forest authority. He is trying to formulate practical ideas about how to conserve the "natural" in the 300,000 hectare remnant of Wildwood we now have, and how to mitigate the "unnaturalness" of the monoculture plantations profit and shortsightedness now dictate.

Dr Peterken can drive from his house near Oundle in Northamptonshire and find woods of nearly every kind.

In Fenny Wood, there is a newish plantation of oak: 40-year-old adolescent trees grow where coppicing would once have taken place. In Short Wood, the local Naturalists' Trust has bought a classic derelict coppice-turned-copse which will, with some management, become a more or less elegant compromise between a rural pre-industrial archaeological museum and a sort of arboretum.

A little farther away are Bedford Purlieus, a much abused remnant of the antique Rockingham Forest. Until 1939, they were coppiced, and then the Forestry Commission clear-felled everything, and put in beech and oak.

For several years, Bedford Purlieus were threatened by open cast mining, so the wood was received no further "improvement": they were left more or less

pure in their middle. Now the Forestry Commission has agreed to leave the place for the growth of fair sized trees, without further regimentation. That is the acceptable, compromising face of forestry. But the fate of much of the country's woodland is mostly in great doubt. Successive recent books with eloquent titles have come forward to document our modern intention to finally extinguish our ancient wilderness. Richard Mabey's *The Common Ground*, Marion Shoard's *The Theft of the Countryside* and Graham Moss's *Britain's Wasted Acres* are all variously mathematical, financial, aesthetic or ecological in their calculations, but they add up to a shocking indictment of what we do with our portion of the earth's crust.

Our small woods are under threat from heavily subsidized agriculture (in a process which sees the great oak, beech and ash put aside in favour of a butter mountain). Meanwhile, the Forestry Commission is intent on massively increasing the forest estate of the country, and was cheered on its way by a report from the Centre for Agricultural Strategy which suggested a doubling of the acreage under trees. They point to our importing 92 per cent of our wood needs, at a cost of £2,300 million in 1978. However, the prospect of this scale of planting does not cheer conservationists, who despair of the Forestry Commission or the private forestry industry eschewing deadly monoculture.

The anxiety is that yet more Sika spruce and pine will march across the landscape in wearisome uniformity. About 85 per cent of the

Forestry Commission plantations are of conifer.

Christopher Hall, who has campaigned for the Rambler's Association and the Council for the Protection of Rural England, and now reviews the rural scene from *The Countryside* editorial desk, is the staunchest of the industry's critics. "I see no great change in the Forestry Commission's policies", he says.

And Lady Sayer, for 20 years chairman of the Dartmoor Preservation Association, and now one of its patrons, would probably agree. She has just seen the DPA lose a fight to stop a Forestry Commission sponsored scheme to afforest three sites at Burrator. "We have to fight over every stretch of wild, open space that we have. And I speak as a grant planter of oaks: I love the oakswoods in the Dartmoor Valleys."

The difficulty is that agricultural land is now absurdly expensive and, what is worse, financiers are not Methuselah. Tree growing becomes a quick-kill business on marginal land much needed for its wild quality. "I'm absolutely certain that my grand son and his son would prefer that I had planted broadleaf", says George Holmes, director general of the Forestry Commission. "But the economic case is much more difficult". Oak, for instance, shows no return at all for 50 years, and its major return must wait 150 years.

Confessors show their first small return after 15 years; and their major return after 40 or 50. The forestry authorities have the public's love of broadleaf woods on one side, and the Treasury's

passion for its three per cent, on the other.

There is an added peculiarity: no one seems able to put a cash price on something as far distant as a crop 150 years hence. Once, at least aristocrats had the confidence that their familial interests would be alive and kicking when even the mightiest oak had come to maturity. But modern economics have brought the dreaded conifer to within sight even of Longleat House, much to the sadness of the Marquess of Bath, a noted tree-lover. "I'm not in charge now, and it wasn't my decision, but I'm afraid that's what money does."

Between the price of land and of money, forestry has become a vulgar, quick business. As such, it attracts pension funds and investors who would otherwise have to pay a great deal of tax: private forestry firms have sprung up to help the rich take advantage of the tax concessions forestry attracts. Whilst ordinary people know that the only sensible economic decisions are taken as though grandchildren matter, governments and the market tend to have shorter horizons.

Economist Robert Miller, in an Institute of Economics Affairs paper, *State Forestry for the Age*, insists that if trees will matter 50 or 100 years from now — for instance because of a world timber shortage — then some entrepreneur will put a value on that, and do it now. He argues for the complete privatization of the Forestry Commission.

All this is ambrosia to a Government which enjoys the idea of the unseen hand, and which has insisted that some of the restrictions on farmers grubbing up woodland be loosened, and has required the Forestry Commission to sell off £40m of land and plantation in the next few years. It is unlikely those acres will fall to owners less profit conscious than the state forestry service.

These tendencies add up to the likelihood of more blanket conifer plantations, a greater emphasis on arable land over woodland and even less chance for broadleaf trees.

Meanwhile George Peterken and other colleagues are discussing the idea of classifying certain woods as more important for conservation than for timber. The Countryside Commission, the official custodian of our landscape and of the population's right to despoil itself therein, seems to be keeping a rather low profile on the subject. A paper on its view on forestry is expected soon: but there is a deal of internal debate on the proper strategy to adopt. The Commission had steeled itself to suggest planning controls over forests — as many would like to impose on our unfettered farmers.

There are glimmers of good news. Richard Mabey has just bought a local derelict coppice, which he hopes will one day become a community wood, and other once-coppiced woods do fall to conservationist hands. Perhaps the ecology movement will overthrow the new peasantry which will work them. But it will take positive decision-making to lay down the beech, ash, lime and oak our children's children will probably need for making things, and will certainly need for their spiritual nourishment.

Richard North

## Civil rights

## Still no sexual equality

British homosexuals are welcoming the recent decision by the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe that the 21 member states should stop discriminating against homosexuals. The United Kingdom's law and practice are among the worst in western Europe. There is, however, a widespread belief that British homosexuals have no cause for complaint, as the 1967 Sexual Offences Act is thought to have ended the persecution of homosexual men in respect of their private lives. The continued campaigning of homosexuals is therefore considered unnecessary and offensive. Are those attitudes justified?

Many homosexuals would answer "no", for they experience the limitations of the present law and the inequitable treatment which homosexuals are liable to receive from members of the public, ranging from people in authority to murderous young thugs. British law and practice are out of line with the law and practice prevailing in western Europe and much of north America (whether one thinks of traditionalist Quebec or "twenty-first century" California).

It is in communist states that homosexuals are treated as they are here. For the state to interfere in people's private lives as much as it does here may be acceptable to totalitarians but should not be tolerable in a country which affirms the freedom of the individual.

The campaigners' basic arguments are that homosexuals are a minority of ordinary people who differ from the majority only by their emotional and physical orientation towards members of their own sex and that the present discrimination against them is unjust and unnecessary.

It is natural for most people to be heterosexual but homosexuality is as natural for members of the homosexual minority as heterosexuality is for members of the majority. It is normal for human societies to contain homosexual minorities. In many societies homosexual relations have been accepted and in some they have been esteemed.

In Britain, however, youths and girls who realize that they are homosexual know also that society gives hardly any recognition to the fact that their homosexuality is natural for them. Society promotes heterosexuality so overwhelmingly that often the parents, friends, colleagues and employers of people whose homosexuality becomes known reject them totally, with the result that the fear of causing such intense antagonism and losing one's job causes many homosexuals to conceal their true nature from adolescence onwards. The longer they live a lie the more they harm their personality and integrity.

The criminal law discriminates against homosexuals in four main ways. Homosexual relations are still illegal for men under 21 throughout the United Kingdom. As sexual orientation is fixed well before puberty, and as youths can be protected by law from assault and improper influence by teachers and other persons in authority just as girls can, the minimum age for homosexual relations between males should be 16 — which it already is for heterosexual and lesbian relations.

Second, homosexual relations are still illegal for men over 21 in Northern Ireland; a gross anomaly.

Third, the law still treats as criminals members of the armed forces — men or women — who have homosexual relations with fellow members or civilians, although it does not prohibit heterosexual relations. It still bans merchant seamen on a British merchant ship from homosexual relations with fellow seamen on board ship, prohibitions which are excessive because good discipline could be adequately protected without treating people as criminals.

Fourth, in the definition of privacy, and in other ways too detailed — for this space, the criminal law discriminates unnecessarily against homosexuals. If it treated homosexual and heterosexual relations alike, the police, the courts and penal institutions would have much less to do in the delicate area of sexual behaviour yet there would still be adequate protection for those who did not consent to sexual relations or were too immature to give valid consent.

To change attitudes is a task related to the effort to change the law but distinguishable from it. At present many people have gross misconceptions about homosexuality. For example, it is often said that homosexuals are likely to molest children. In consequence, able homosexual men and women have been dismissed from a variety of jobs — such as teaching children, working on buses which convey children or doing manual work in holiday camps — merely because it became known that they were homosexual and despite the fact that there had been no complaints about their behaviour.

In fact, the vast majority of homosexuals are attracted to people of roughly their own age just as the vast majority of heterosexuals are; moreover, most child-molesters are heterosexual. It would therefore be as sensible to dismiss heterosexuals from jobs in proximity to children and young people as to dismiss homosexuals from them.

The law should ensure that sexual orientation should not in itself be the ground for refusing to take on or keep an employee. Children and young people have the right to protection but this right does not necessitate discrimination against homosexuals as such, just as the right of girls to be protected from incest would not justify separating their fathers and brothers from them.

Every week cases are reported of youths and men violently attacking people who are believed to be homosexual; some attacks culminate in murder. Queer-bashing is a sport widely practised by young thugs, often tolerated by their parents and sometimes stimulated by emotional reports in newspapers. Indiscriminate hostility to homosexuals is sometimes expressed by people in authority, such as judges, police chiefs, and politicians, including the deputy mayor of a northern town who declared at a council meeting this year homosexuals were sick people whose sickness could be cured by a 303 bullet through the head.

The effort to get more humane attitudes is no easy task for the advocates of the right of homosexuals to be regarded as ordinary fellow human beings. That is why they welcome the support of the Parliamentary Assembly.

Peter Campbell

The author is membership secretary of the Conservative Group for Homosexual Equality.

## Why the Third World ignores the homeless

Just over five years ago the United Nations conference on Human Settlements (Habitat) ended in Vancouver on a discordant note. Fifteen western nations felt obliged to vote against the Declaration of Principles because a majority of Third World countries refused to delete a clause equating slums with poverty. The political commitment intended to overshadow the remarkable fact that the 132 delegation had, despite their squabbling, unanimously endorsed recommendations, some fairly radical for improving the appalling housing conditions in which most of the world's population lives.

The most important of those recommendations were that in poor countries, Governments should cease bulldozing slums and squatter settlements and replace them with housing that the slum dwellers could not begin to afford; and that, instead of importing expensive and frequently inappropriate building systems, they should direct their resources to supplying clean water and proper sanitation, and to encourage squatters to improve and convert their temporary dwellings into permanent homes.

The need for clean water was argued with considerable passion by the late Lady Jackson (Barbara Ward), who said that a commitment by the conference would be the greatest single step it could take towards increasing human health and happiness. But, as experience has shown, commitments and resolutions by international bodies, the United Nations in particular, are usually quickly ignored and forgotten.

Confirmation of this is supplied in a report by Eassey, a London-based environmental group. It surveys the progress made by 17 Asian, African and Latin American nations in implementing what it identifies as the six most important UN recommendations.

It concludes that only one, Tanzania, has begun to implement all six. Singapore and Tunisia have partially adopted four, and some other countries, such as three, Bolivia, Nigeria and Jordan

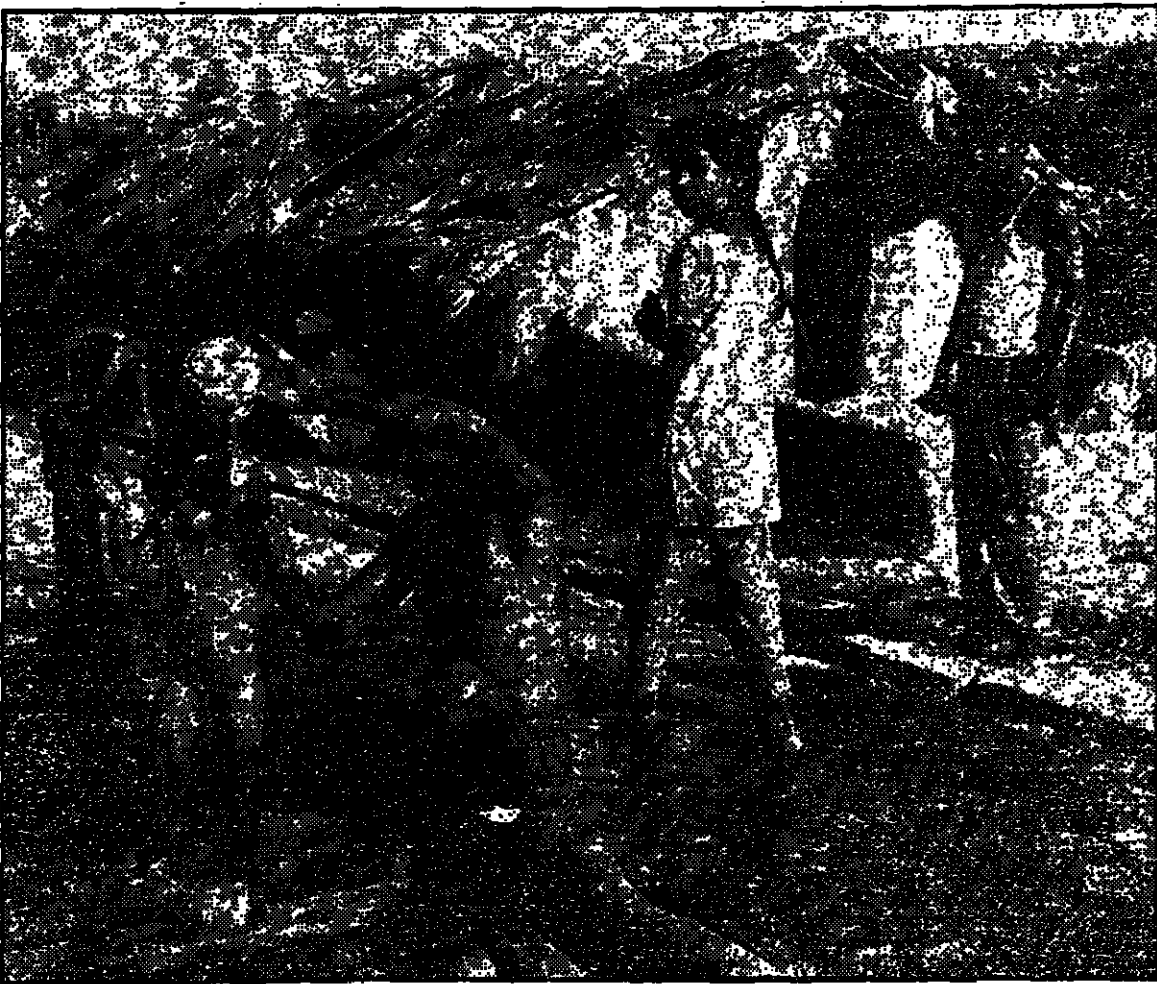
have shown little interest in any of the recommendations, it says. The Eassey report, which is largely based on a detailed study by the International Institute for Environment and Development, rejects the idea that the deplorable housing record of so many Third World governments can be excused by poverty. Despite recession and the high price of oil imports, most Third World economies are far richer and stronger than they were in 1950.

The Gross Domestic Product of the so-called "middle income" countries, which include most Latin American nations and the richer ones in Asia and Africa, increased by six per cent a year during the 1960s, and by only slightly less in the 1970s. During the past 18 years in Nigeria, the Philippines, Egypt, Bolivia, Morocco, Colombia and Brazil, economic growth has easily outstripped the increase in population. But so far from housing conditions having improved, the evidence suggests that more people are badly housed now than 30 years ago.

The report observes that housing conditions provide one of the most visible indications of the success or failure of a government's development programme. The extent to which clean water, adequate sanitation and garbage removal, and other domestic services are provided is a sign of a government programme reaching, or failing to reach, the mass of the people.

Judged by these criteria, most governments have had little success in spreading the benefits of economic growth. In almost every large city in the Third World, that failure is graphically illustrated by the contrast between the overcrowded slums and shanty towns, and the low density "garden suburbs" with Western-style houses.

The report draws attention to the close link between poor or non-existent drinking water supplies and sanitation, and the incidence of killer diseases. According to the World Health Organization, the lack of basic facilities may account for four fifths of all sickness and disease.



The luxury of water: a ramshackle village near Delhi.

Bad drinking water causes diarrhoea, infective hepatitis, typhoid, cholera and guinea worm. Every year an estimated six million children die from diarrhoeal diseases.

Lack of water for washing is a prime cause of trachoma, scabies, yaws, leprosy and conjunctivitis. Worm infections are the result of bad sanitation; tuberculosis thrives in dark, ill-ventilated spaces; the absence of screens and netting facilitates the spread of insect-carried diseases like malaria and elephantiasis; garbage attracts rats which transmit bacterial food poisoning, typhus and plague.

All that is compounded by the prospect of still worse overcrowding. The accompanying table shows not only the formidable scale of population increase in the world's largest cities, but also how the pattern of urban expansion has shifted from Europe and America to the Third World.

Yet according to a 1973 World Bank report in Cairo only the wealthiest 10 per cent could afford public housing. In Manila, even with extensive subsidies, such housing was beyond the

means of half the population. In Karachi and Guayaquil, a third of the inhabitants had no hope of affording even the cheapest house or building plot.

"Cities and populations continue to grow, money and political will are lacking", the Eassey report concludes. "Despite Habitat, most governments fail yearly

further behind on their pledge to help house the poorest."

"Shelter: Need and Response; housing, land and settlement policies in 17 Third World nations. Jorge Hardy and David Satterthwaite. John Wiley & Sons.

John Young  
Planning Reporter

Population in millions	1950	2000
New York-NE New Jersey	12.3	31.0
London	10.4	23.8
Rhine-Ruhr	6.9	23.7
Tokyo-Yokohama	6.7	23.7
Calcutta	5.8	22.4
Shanghai	5.5	20.9
Panama	5.3	19.0
Buenos Aires	5.3	18.4
Chicago-NW Indiana	4.9	18.4
Moscow	4.8	18.4
Los Angeles	4.6	15.7
Los Angeles-Long Beach	4.0	13.9
Oaxaca-Kobe	3.8	13.7
Seoul	3.6	12.9
Milan	3.6	12.7
Bombay	3.0	12.7
Mexico City	3.0	12.1

NS: Both the 1950 and the 2000 population figures refer to the "urban agglomeration" (usually the same as the metropolitan area population). Projections for the year 2000 are based on past trends and the country's economy, population growth and population movement. SOURCE: Table B, urban, rural and city population 1950-2000, as assessed in 1978. United Nations (ESA/P/W.60).

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# The perils in Britain's economic experiment

by James Tobin, yesterday's winner of the Nobel prize for economics

Yesterday Professor Tobin of Yale University was named as winner of the 1981 Nobel prize for economics. Today the Conservative Party conference debates economic policy. This singular connexion gives point to prophecies Professor Tobin made in July 1980 when he was asked to give his views on monetary policy to the Treasury and Civil Service select committee.

The United Kingdom has embarked on a very interesting and risky experiment in macroeconomic and monetary policy. In Germany it does not seem that they have carried out an experiment of this kind, getting back from quite a high rate of inflation to a lower one purely by monetary means. Professor Friedman said it does not take all that long, it only takes three years. Three years is quite a long time. This kind of experiment amounts to what is sometimes called a credible threat policy. That is to say to the private economy: "We are determined and resolute that monetary demand will be disinflated at a preannounced schedule, regardless of the transitional consequences".

The hope of the protagonists of that policy is that it will so melt the existing core of inflation in the economy that the response to it will be much quicker than one might have expected in the past. If the policy does not do anything to the domestic sources of the inflation rate, or do very little to it, within a year or two, and if during that period there is really no abatement in the decline of employment and the stagnation of production and investment then I would begin to wonder if I were you, whether the experiment is going to work.

The theory that one might regard as underpinning the present policy says that when you have made the public threat about never giving in then the response will be quicker than past estimates of it would suggest, because the unions, managements, workers, private sector agents all over the economy, will feel that they are not going to be bailed out by compensatory

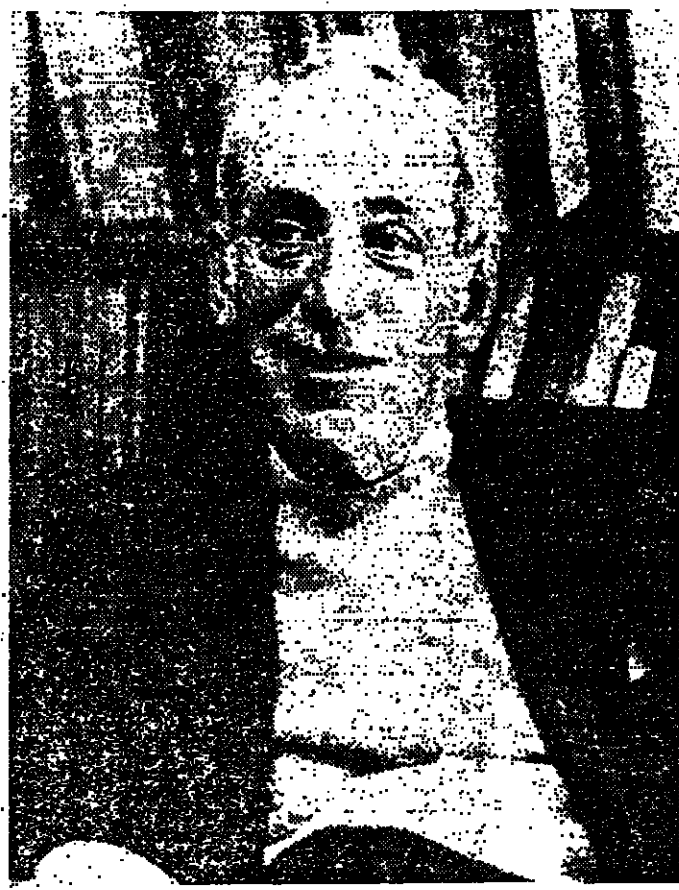
or accommodative monetary and fiscal policies in the future and that will make them disinflation faster. I am quite sceptical. That kind of threat is a threat to everybody in general and nobody in particular.

If you do not rely on some strong expectations effect of that kind then one cannot be very optimistic about the speed of the response to a purely monetary disinflation. The problem about expecting that to have its impact in local markets, in the local levels of the shops and firms and unions and industries where prices and wages are actually made is that they are not playing a game just with the central bank.

Those people are playing a game with other workers, other firms, the rest of the private economy. They are going to be concerned about whether anybody else is going to respond to that threat. In that kind of game their main concern is about how they stand in wages and prices relative to other people whom they regard as important reference groups for themselves.

They will calculate, not knowing what the rest of the private economy is going to do, that the safest thing may be to let those other people do the disinflation if anybody is going to do it at all. If everybody calculates that way then nobody will disinflate.

It is like people who are watching some kind of spectacle in an arena and they are all standing up to see better. When everybody stands up they do not actually see better, but the question is who is going to sit down first. With a general threat, not every body disinflates. It does not work very well in school classrooms and it may not



work very well in a modern economy.

One could estimate the cost (of the policy) in terms of lost output and employment, in terms of the excess unemployment and excess capacity of industry that is idle because of the policy during the transition period, however long it may be.

Then the main issue becomes whether that cost is worth paying in terms of the outcome in inflation abatement which occurs during that time, especially whether there is light at the end of the tunnel, whether you can see the way toward a recovery in which the losses of output, employment and investment — which is a long run loss, not just a short run loss — are reversed.

Damage to the formation of capital in the economy is a permanent loss of a policy which is damaging to the long run prospects of the economy.

Those costs can be measured and the ultimate judgment that parliamentarians and the electorate must make is whether the gains in terms of inflation reduction are worth it. But to do it without any prospect that there would be a recovery, a revival, that investment will turn up again, that would be paying costs with very little hope of future reward.

When you disinflate the total amount of monetary demand in the economy a larger part goes into output reduction and the reduction in the rate of inflation is a small fraction. So for America the evidence of the past is that an extra point of unemployment for a year would reduce the ongoing domestic rate of wage and price inflation by maybe a third of a point or at most a half of a point. That means you need a lot of unemployment to get rid of five points or six

points of an ongoing inflation rate.

I have seen conflicting estimates of what the corresponding coefficient for that is in the United Kingdom. Some are about the same as for the United States, others saying that the response is quicker in the United Kingdom than in the United States.

The idea of what is a safe level of unemployment that can be aimed at by policy makers drifts upwards all the time after each bout of monetary restriction. In the next business cycle what is regarded as a safe level of unemployment is higher than it was in the previous occurrence. I would not be surprised if that happened here.

There may be a kind of self-fulfilling prophecy involved in this business that if you experience higher rates of unemployment for long periods of time then the general notion of what is a normal rate of unemployment rises and you will never get back to the lower rates that were experienced previously.

The public, at least the American public, never believes that unemployment is a solution to inflation and they are right not to believe that. It is crazy to have to go through that kind of process in order to get the rate of inflation down.

When it comes to recovery, I can imagine that you eventually return to a state of normal growth of real output, but at a lower level at which there is less capital and more unemployment, so that you never make up fully for the period of lower output. And the country holds statesmen responsible for economic results and not economic results purely in terms of prices and money supplies but in terms of employment, jobs, output, investment, growth.

You may not be able to get full employment, stable prices, everything else we want in terms of Government policy all at once. But that does not mean that we should not have some objectives in regard to employment and in regard to growth of output.

I do not, moreover, think that recovery happens automatically, that just having a lower rate of inflation in-

creases demand or starts making it grow. I have heard it said that just having a lower price level relative to the amounts of monetary wealth in the economy makes people wealthier because they have sterling assets and when the purchasing power of the sterling assets is greater, that will lead them to do a lot of spending that they would not have done at higher levels of prices.

That occurs in macroeconomic textbooks, but I would not rely on that as a practical matter for solving aggregate demand problems in an economy. It is not that sure and it is not that much.

The idea that you leave money supply to determine employment and everything we want is burying your head in the sand.

In general, it is not possible for a government in a democracy to say: "Our

The public never believes that unemployment is a solution to inflation, and they are right... It is crazy'.

only business in economics is to give money and then you can decide both short run and long run by the workings of the market how much employment results from that, how much output results from that, how much industry results from that."

In the end the country holds statesmen responsible for economic results and not economic results purely in terms of prices and money supplies but in terms of employment, jobs, output, investment, growth.

Henry Fairlie

## How American kindness can be dangerous

Washington. It has sometimes been difficult in the past week to remember that Anwar Sadat was not an American, and even that he was not a good Republican who could be trusted to vote the right way about abortion. In the press, on television and in the talk of policy makers, one has kept hearing a strange complaint that Egypt was not mourning him adequately.

As one watched and read and listened, it seemed not to occur to anyone that Sadat may have been shot, however irrationally, for the same reason that the Shah was deposed: that he seemed to have become an American. If the Americans do not have many good allies around the world, one began to think, perhaps it is because they will not recognize allies until they have turned them into Americans.

The phenomenon of anti-Americanism may not be a protest against American power, wealth or policies so much as a stubborn resistance to the American way of appearing to take over all other nationalities, cultures and races and creeds, and especially their leaders.

After the fall of the Shah, the coming of the Ayatollah, and the seizing of the American hostages in Tehran, one could not help observing that everyone in Washington was speed reading the Koran. The only difference in the past week has been that the Koran is now assumed to be American, like the Bill of Rights, even *Moby Dick*, and just written in the wrong language.

Take the business of assassinations. There is nothing that Americans like more than a good, brisk assassination somewhere else in the world, so that they may say "et tu..."

Americans are very ecumenical about assassinations. They like to believe they can embrace them all. Let one foreign leader be shot at 9am Eastern Standard Time and one knows that by 6pm Central and Mountain State Time there will be a documentary about the shooting of Abraham Lincoln and Martin Luther King Jr.

But Americans like to do the funerals for other people. They are very generous that way. They really do not mind the expense and want to be sure that the Egyptians, or whoever it is, will really do it in style.

So they pack Air Force One with jelly beans, three former Presidents and the one former President's wife, to say nothing of one former Secretary of State and of course the present Secretary of State; and then throw in the Secretary of Defence, three senators and three members of the House of Representatives, and who else but Stevie Wonder, identified as "the singer-composer" in the list of mourning dignitaries compiled by Associated Press and printed in *The New York Times*.

That is not even the complete list of the Americans who travelled to pay their last respects. Oh, and Britain sent along Prince Charles. That was rather jolly of it, especially as it also threw in a former Prime Minister, whom Associated Press might have taken the trouble to identify as the father-in-law of Peter Jay, whom it also could have taken the trouble to identify as the former ambassador to the United Nations.

And the Netherlands sent along a Prince Claus. But the Americans also threw in Jeane Kirkpatrick, ambassador of the moral majority to the United Nations. By Sunday it was clear that

the funeral of Anwar Sadat took place on Air Force One. It was rather decent of the Egyptians to go to all the bother of getting out their troops as a guard of honour for the three former Presidents. Foreigners can be very nice, when they behave like Americans.

By Monday the funeral was over. But the Americans — one really cannot bear them in their generosity — then staged the resurrection. Former President Ford and former President Carter had agreed that America should talk to the PLO. Former President Nixon is meanwhile wandering around somewhere in the Middle East initiating former Henry Kissinger in shuttle diplomacy. Former first lady Rosalynn was, while on a secret mission to present first lady Nancy, who of course organized the wedding of Prince Charles, who was allowed to attend Sadat's funeral because the Americans do not really mind that he once wrote a revisionist defence of George III.

Americans are so big. They have such huge hearts. The Shah fell because he became American. Sadat fell because he became American. And now they will do it all over again, not minding the expense, for the leader of the PLO. If one were the leader of



Yasser Arafat next for an American kiss-over?

the PLO, one could run for cover. Americans do not seem to realize why their kiss is the kiss of death.

It is this that makes one shudder. The next great American takeover has already been put into motion — in mid-air — while they are burying the victim of their latest takeover. There is only one thing to do — isn't there? — now: make Americans out of the PLO. America does not kill with bombs, America kills with its kindness.

The world would like to trust America, but it does not, because America does not trust itself. Politically, America is sound. Judicially, America is sound. Economically, America is sound. Even morally or socially, America is sound.

Culturally, America is a disaster to posterity, artists, intellectuals, thinkers, its dreamers: none of them in the end believes in America. Somewhere else in the Old World which they left — in Europe or Vietnam or Islam or on one of the other two Chinas — lies a truth which it is for them to discover, because they do not believe that their own truth lies here in America.

Why do Europeans not understand Europe better than they themselves have yet managed to do? That is the same question that Americans appear to put wherever they go in the world. Then they wonder why a quarter of a million Germans held an anti-American demonstration at the same time as they were burying Sadat.

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## An Arab lesson Sadat chose to ignore

Anwar Sadat would not have wanted to compare his life with that of Mustafa El-Nahas, but of two men who with appropriate and deadly symmetry into the pattern of Egypt's violent nationalist history, El-Nahas was the Wafdist leader who refused to accept British sovereignty over Egypt and became the idol of Egyptian youth in the late 1920s. Sadat was the man who refused to accept Egypt's constant defeat at the hands of the Israelis and who achieved, for a few incredible years, the stature of a great Arab warrior.

But the two men share another, more disturbing parallel. In 1942, as Rommel's armies threatened Egypt, the British forced a pro-allied Wafdist government upon the supine King Farouk and prevailed upon El-Nahas to take the post of prime minister. The leader of one burgeoning Egyptian terrorist gang immediately denounced him as a traitor to Egypt and the Arab cause. El-Nahas's enemies planned his assassination and managed to murder his finance minister in a well-planned ambush in Cairo. There was a lesson here for Anwar Sadat if he had cared to take it. In the Arab world, El-Nahas's name still provokes gestures of opprobrium almost identical to those which were heaped upon Sadat's memory by his enemies as the white gravestone sealed the murdered Egyptian

president into the earth on Saturday afternoon.

Like El-Nahas, however, Sadat was also regarded as an essentially parochial leader by neighbouring Arab nations. While the American television networks and Western newspapers projected him as one of the twentieth century's most courageous leaders, his fellow Arabs never saw him in so visionary a light, even before his trip to Jerusalem when his military achievements were still lauded in Damascus and Baghdad. Thus on Saturday, as the Presidents of America and the premiers of the Western world paid their homage to his memory at Nasser City, the funeral was the third item on Syrian radio's afternoon news bulletin.

Of course, there was much spite in all this. If Sadat's assassination was of so little importance to his Arab enemies, they would not have engineered such noisy demonstrations of joy at the news of his murder. Nor would Libya have broadcast such ferocious anti-semitic sentiments on Saturday although this tells us something about the state of Colonel Gaddafi's mind. But it is important to realize that within the Arab world, the man whom the West revered as a hero of peace was never held in any kind of international esteem even by those who admired him. For this reason, his death is unlikely to provoke the sud-

Hosni Mubarak, yesterday elected President of Egypt, is expected to follow the policies of Anwar Sadat. But Sadat, for all his strengths, argues Robert Fisk, had weaknesses as an Arab leader.

den, dangerous shifts in Arab policy that both superpowers fear. Perhaps the Arabs did not want to believe that Nasser's successor could be anything but a parochial man, and perhaps they also knew him too well.

In one way, his misdeeds were not political. It was bad enough for Nasser's descendant to make peace with Israel. But Sadat did something more serious than this: He turned away from the consensus of opinion, the *Imnah* in Arabic which is so important to the Muslim community. By breaking ranks with his Arab brothers, he became for many of them a *Harajite*, a seceder from the ranks of the faithful. That Sadat declared himself a true Muslim and used this fact in the eyes of his opponents. His misdeed was thus theological as much as it was political, which was why so many many mutually antagonistic Arab states were able to gather in Baghdad after Camp David to condemn the Egyptian president.

The Baghdad summit was a clumsy, awkward and tense affair — no one felt this more than Saudi Arabia — but the meeting was essential for reasons that many people did

not appreciate at the time. After that summit there was talk among the more aggressive Arab delegations of assassinating Sadat. It was for the most part the product of anger, but it was significant, since it showed that the Egyptian president was already considered a possible sacrifice.

The West largely misunderstood this deep sense of betrayal in the Arab world, choosing to believe that Arab fury had been provoked by Sadat's political courage. In fact, the contrary was true. In the eyes of his Arab neighbours, Sadat's political isolation was a curiously impressive phenomenon. Publicly despised though he may have been, he was a faithful and silent ally against the Ayatollah Khomeini and the forces of Islamic revolution that seemed to threaten Iraq and the Gulf. Sadat's loneliness allowed him to say things which many Arab leaders were too weak or too frightened to acknowledge. The Gulf countries on Sadat's flank kept Libya in check, just as it could count on Egypt to oppose Soviet expansion in the Horn of Africa. Even the Palestinians, though they would never admit this,

believed that Sadat was at least consistent in his demand for an autonomous state, even if he was not successful.

This may sound ungenerous, since the criticisms have come from men like Saddam Hussein of Iraq, whose savage dictatorship made Sadat's Egypt look like a Swedish-style democracy. But there was a peculiarity about Sadat that his fellow Arabs never forgave. He seemed to play to an audience rather than governing a country, to be preparing his lines for Barbara Walters or for a *Time* magazine interview rather than disentangling the chaotic economy of his overpopulated and desperately poor country.

Sadat's presidency had become a form of theatre, played out for the benefit of Western admirers. There was an illustration of this as far back as 1976 when the Press were summoned to his Islamic vest-house in the city of Mecca. President Sarkis of Lebanon whose country was being torn apart in a civil war, shortly before Sarkis's arrival, the pipe-smoking and avuncular figure of Sadat emerged from his villa to sit in the dust on a wicker armchair waiting for his visitor. The cameras recorded this almost pastoral scene, and when Sarkis arrived Sadat led him gently by the arm into his villa. It was a gentle,

strangely moving moment. But the second the two men disappeared inside the house, Sadat's security men turned on the Press, beating the American crews with their fists and assaulting taxi-drivers with batons. The show was over. Sadat's *Mohabarrat* made a habit of doing this. These were the same toughs who last Tuesday pointed their guns towards the Press rather than the assassins and screamed: "No pictures!" while their president was being slaughtered.

Sadat's regime was not a typically Arab police state. He closed down Nasser's prison camps in the desert; he put a stop to *Mohabarrat* tortures in Cairo's Citadel Prison. But millions of his people found themselves in a different kind of jail, imprisoned by poverty and destitution. The supreme irony of Sadat's rule was that his great achievement will not be recognised by the Arabs for many months, perhaps years: for he gave the Arabs credibility in the West. He showed the Americans that Arabs could be as honourable and visionary as the Israelis, that integrity was not something exclusive to the Jewish state. Sadat's motives were not as clear-cut as his friends would like to believe, and his vanity created a certain *hubris* in the man. For Sadat was not a great Arab leader. He was only a great Western leader.

## Winchester College lands Ionesco

Something of a coup for Winchester College and King Alfred's College, Winchester, who have managed to entice Eugene Ionesco, the Rumanian-born French playwright, to attend the English premiere of one of his more recent plays. Ionesco, aged 68, will make his rare visit next week when a small Parisian-based theatre group, Art and Progress, give three performances of *Parlons Francaise* at the theatre in King Alfred's College.

Yesterday, Mr Alan Conn, deputy head of modern languages at Winchester College, who will entertain Ionesco during his three-day stay, told me that the visit had come about in a "completely fortuitous" manner. "It was simply that a colleague's wife knew somebody connected with this theatre group. I think they gave the director my name. They wanted to come to England. We jumped at the opportunity."

Ionesco, he explained, prefers his work to be performed in the more intimate atmosphere of small theatres. The play, which was well received in Paris and has since toured the United States, looks at the hazards of teaching French to Americans through an encounter between a language school principal and a variety of students.

## Dismembership

When Groucho Marx made that celebrated remark about not

wanting to be a member of a club that would admit him, he could not have had in mind The Dungeon Club, because it did not exist then. But I am sure he wouldn't have wanted to be a member anyway.



Mary, Queen of Scots: a victim

The club was formed last January after a party at the London Dungeon held in honour of that is the right word, of descendants of some of our great torture victims — Mary Queen of Scots, Watt Tyler, Guy Fawkes, Sir Everard Digby, William Wallace plus more "ordinary" martyrs like horse thief Isaac Ilingworth, who was gibbeted alive in Halifax in 1641. These descendants got on so well that they formed themselves into a club and have been meeting regularly ever since.

Now I hear that the club wants to extend its membership to descendants of the torturers.

## Dirty George

Who is behind the Tory dirty tricks department seeking to discredit Edward Heath? The answer appears to be George Gardner, the right-wing MP for Blackpool yesterday: pinned to his breast, beside a Monday Club badge announcing support for Mrs Thatcher, was another confessing membership of the DTD. His secretary Christine Brown designed it and had it cast by staff on the Young Conservatives Stand, where badges are made to order. By last night, the DTD legend was selling well amid rumours that a rival product is about to be marketed by Tory Central Office.

Gardner, the former journalist and an early biographer of the Prime Minister (Margaret Thatcher: *From Childhood to Leadership*) denies that he has become a Heath-baiter. "We are taking the mucky out of these ludicrous allegations that there is a campaign to discredit him. What is he up to by making them? I don't think he has ever dropped or forgotten the idea of a government of national unity which he floated on the eve of the October election in 1974. Would he now be adverse to a situation in which the SDP holds the balance? One wonders."

## Time, not tempo

I had thought that stop-watches were only used by athletics statisticians, but now I hear that music critics are falling back on

## THE TIMES DIARY



For those whose taste runs to collecting the apparently uncollectable, some particularly desirable items are up for auction. Sotheby's next month, nine supposedly "classic" examples of "disfranchised mail". The letters, from the Rev. Justin Perkins, an American missionary in Persia in the nineteenth century and others, were officially disfranchised to guard against the possibility of transmitting cholera and other dangerous fevers which were widespread in Europe and the Middle East at the time. I understand that such letters were either opened, cut or placed

with special footers and exposed to sulphur fumes, or disinfected with vinegar or similar substances.

According to Otto Hornung, my source and the author of *The Illustrated Encyclopedia of Stamp Collecting*, "such mail items were marked with special cachets stating for instance that the letter was disfranchised only from the outside or on the outside and the inside as well."

He adds that it is practically impossible for a young philatelist to form a specialised collection of disfranchised mail because it is scarce and expensive (the nine letters are expected to fetch in the region of £3,000). Given the mail's disease-ridden pedigree I'm surprised they're not giving the stuff away.

It is... very, very slow. To spend 18 seconds getting from a C to a B flat is excessive even in a symphony by Mahler. (Come to think of it, this bit is more like cricket than athletics.)

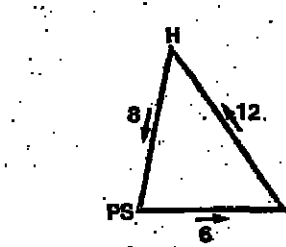
The criticism is especially surprising since Abbado's recent progress reading of Mahler's fifth was widely acclaimed, as were his previous Mahler records. But Osborne's review is the first to appear, and I understand that it may therefore have a sharp effect on sales.

## A to B, by DOE

I warn you to begin with that I do not have an A level in geometry, and for this piece it would

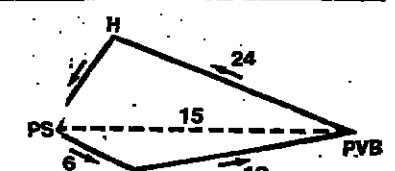
definitely help. The Department of the Environment and the Department of Transport have just issued a joint booklet, under the imprimatur of Mr F. Ennals, Director General of Organisation & Establishments, "in clarification of those rules pertaining to the payment of mileage allowances for official travelling." Oh yes. Stick with me, if you can. The booklet, nine pages of it, becomes gradually overwhelmed with even more amazing diagrams, like instructions for how to do Rubik's cube.

It starts simply enough.



What this means is that the poor soul started his journey at home (H), travelled to his Permanent Station (PS), visited place A (PVA) and then went home direct. 26 units were travelled but only 11 may be claimed, the distance from PS to PVA and back. Fair enough.

Now a second example. Suppose the officer travels from Home to Permanent Station, then to place visited, A, then place visited B, then returns directly home, a in this diagram.



He has actually travelled 48 units but can only be paid for PS to PVA and back to PS 6+10+15=31. OK? Well, this is where it gets really fun. All this only applies if the civil servant takes his own car on a journey that could be done by public transport. When the journey can't be done by public transport, a different calculation applies.

In the last diagram, for example, when there is no public transport, the calculations would be as follows: Home to PS to PVA = 14 units actually travelled but people may only claim for PS to PVA plus 1/2, in this case 6 + 2 = 8.

PVA to PVB = 10 units, actually travelled so 10 can be claimed. PVB to home = 15 units actually travelled but limited to PS to PVB + 1/2 = 15 + 5 = 20.

So for the total journey of 48 units this time, 38 may be claimed, not 31. You will believe me, I know, when I say that this only takes us half way through the clarification memo: it gets even more complicated, especially when the poor, lost civil servant is unfortunate enough to go straight to PVA from home without checking in at his PS first.

Mr Ennals says that the memo will lapse in 18 months.

Peter Watson





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## THE LEGACY OF PEACE

The concern felt by both Egypt and Sudan over possible Libyan moves in the aftermath of the Sadat assassination is understandable. Few Arab leaders were more vociferous in their opposition to President Sadat and all he stood for than Colonel Gaddafi. The Libyan leader is not the omnipresent bogeyman some members of the Reagan Administration imagine him to be, although it suits both Egypt and Sudan to represent him in that light. None the less, he is capable of causing instability in North Africa and the Middle East, and of going some way toward undermining America's allies in the region.

The United States should try to prevent this. But it is not enough for Washington merely to identify Colonel Gaddafi as the enemy of Western interests in the Middle East. It must also take a hard and careful look at what those interests are, and whether they need to be reassessed. The notion that President Sadat was a man of straw, and that America was wrong to invest so much in him, is attractive to those who have opposed the peace process all along. There are those able to claim that the man who dared to betray the Arab cause by making peace with Israel was doomed to die at the hands of his own people, and be buried unattended. But this is a self-justifying argument. The absence of public grief in the streets of Cairo does not necessarily show that the Muslim fanatics who wished President Sadat dead reflected the will of the majority.

A more plausible explanation is that President Sadat's failure to tackle the extremes of Egyptian poverty, or even to improve significantly the lot of the average citizen, detracted from his achievement in bringing Egypt's military self-confidence in 1973 and the advantages of

peace thereafter. That achievement remains. Most Egyptians — while still waiting for the promised economic benefits of peace — are tired of taking the brunt of conflict with Israel on behalf of the Arab peoples, most of whom have not suffered a fraction of the human cost borne by Egypt.

For this reason alone the Egyptian-Israeli relationship remains well-founded. There is uncertainty over the transfer of the remaining portion of Sinai by Israel to Egypt in April of next year. But Mr. Begin and President-elect Mubarak used the occasion of President Sadat's funeral to make each other's acquaintance, with a view to embarking on practical negotiations, both on Sinai and on the thorny question of Palestinian autonomy on the West Bank within the framework of Camp David. Provided the United States now puts pressure on Israel to make concessions at a time when the new Cairo leadership is weighing its options, the peace process could be given a new lease of life rather than put into cold storage or even abandoned.

There remains the danger that the Reagan Administration will miss this opportunity. It has until now tended to see the Middle East in terms of military arrangements designed to counter Soviet influence. One of Washington's first responses to the murder of President Sadat was to announce the holding of military exercises in Egypt and the Gulf next month, coupled with deliveries of quantities of arms to Egypt and the Sudan. While this is a welcome demonstration of American resolve at a time of crisis, it appears to many in the Arab world as proof of America's desire to dominate the region.

The United States must therefore combine its show of strength with a reexamination

of its tendency to analyse the Middle East in terms of "friends" and "enemies". In particular it needs to address itself to the problem of taking the peace process further by involving the Palestinians. This means, as former Presidents Carter and Ford have acknowledged, involving the Palestine Liberation Organization — which must, however, come round to recognizing Israel's right to exist within secure boundaries.

It also means involving those Arab states which have in the past derided President Sadat's peace efforts in public, but whose interests do not necessarily lie with the radical Arab cause, let alone with the Soviet Union. Mr. Mubarak has in the past shown himself to be the kind of leader who might well want to end Egypt's isolation in the Arab world by reopening links with fellow Arab states. But, as Mr. Haig has pointed out, a partial Egyptian return to the Arab fold need not spell the end of Egypt's commitment to peace with Israel.

On the contrary, if Egypt can preserve its treaty relationship with Israel while re-establishing brotherly ties with Saudi Arabia or Jordan, the result would be to strengthen Western policy rather than weaken it. There are Arab leaders, Colonel Gaddafi of Libya is one, who do not appear to be open to persuasion. But if Washington is able to ensure continuation of the peace process by obliging Israel to make concessions and show flexibility, it will at the same time make it easier for the Mubarak Government at least to put out feelers to fellow pro-Western Arab states, and to demonstrate to them that peace brings results. That would not be to undermine the legacy of President Sadat, but rather to make it more durable.

## Engineering places in universities

From Dr Edward Parkes

Sir, I do not, in general, regard it as part of my job as chairman of the University Grants Committee to respond to erroneous statements in the press about the committee or its actions. I write, not in that capacity, but as an engineer much concerned about the future of his own profession. When the UGC considered how the university system might best adapt to the reductions in funding announced by Government earlier this year, it concluded that, in spite of the cuts, the number of engineering places should be increased. The committee also proposed a small redistribution of those places, so that the number of places between the 42 universities which offer engineering courses. The increase and the redistribution were clearly stated in the July letter of guidance, which was made available to the press.

In detail, 15 universities were specifically asked to increase their engineering numbers, and a further nine were expected to do so. One university was asked to increase its numbers by 20 per cent, and a further 15 were expected to do so. Two universities were asked to reduce their numbers: no other reductions were anticipated.

Press comment has been confused very largely by these last two institutions, and some commentators have been misled into speaking of an attack on technology, when precisely the opposite is the case.

I am concerned lest the reputation of this university may discourage young men and women from applying for engineering courses. It would be a tragedy if the additional places, purchased at such a very heavy cost to other areas of study, were to remain unfilled.

I am therefore writing, at a time of year when many young people will be considering university entrance, to assure them, their parents and others, that the number of engineering places is being increased both relatively and absolutely. Yours faithfully, EDWARD PARKES, 14 Park Crescent, W1, October 12.

## Contracts for dons

From Mr Rowland Eustace

Sir, There are some important prior questions. Is the assured salary to be based on the academic appointments. For instance, about its length or level. Does it have to last seven years longer than a civil servant's: could it be limited to the starting grade, or be subject to the same rules as an Oxford Fellow's was?

Still more important is to know what are the effects of granting any form of tenure. It has been believed both that Oxbridge was improved by those with tenure, and that Redbrick was improved by its extension. It is not self-evident that slower selection would improve later productivity, or certain that more has been discovered by those with tenure than by those without.

Though there has always been plenty of rhetoric, there is little knowledge about such things (which are relevant also to the formation of the whole of the professional class). There are many ways of seeking evidence; there is now, for instance, much experience. Is there not a strong case for some research into this aspect of higher education? Yours, ROWLAND EUSTACE, Administrator, Research into Higher Education, Guildford, Surrey, October 7.

## Profit or conservation

From Mr Guy B. Charter

Sir, If the Wildlife and Countryside Bill passes the House of Lords in its present form, a farmer will become eligible for compensation for profits which he might have made if, but for the objection of conservation groups, he had been permitted to "improve" his land by drainage, tree-planting, scrub-clearance or similar activities.

If I apply for planning permission to build a multi-storey house on the site of a protected house, it will certainly be refused. Why should I be deprived of the profits I might have made from such a development?

Surely it would be only fair if the Government were to introduce a bill making all house-owners eligible for compensation if they cannot maximise the profit from their property because of environmental considerations. Yours sincerely, GUY B. CHARTER, 10 Wheatlock Mead, Redbourn, St Albans, Herts, October 6.

## High-speed train

From Professor N. Kurti, FRs

Sir, It has been pointed out to me that I was being unfair to the French Railways when, in my letter (October 2) I referred to the "specially built track" for the Paris-Lyon train Grande Vitesse, when in fact about one third of the run between Paris and St Florentin is still done on the existing track. I have no doubt that, as mentioned in your article of September 23, when the whole track is completed the average speed of the train will be not much below 150 miles an hour, i.e. about 50 per cent higher than British Rail's best present average speed — on an existing track. Yours faithfully, N. KURTI, Department of Engineering Science, University of Oxford, Parks Road, Oxford.

## Tory debate on economic strategy

From Sir Ronald Bell, QC, MP for Beaconsfield (Conservative)

Sir, The letter from four of my parliamentary colleagues which you printed today (October 13) was adopted only in saying that a *Times* leader was cogently argued. Did they seriously believe that but for their letter the faithful assembled at Blackpool would not feel able to debate our future strategy without fear or inhibition?

What the signatories are saying is, "Stop, it's hurting too much" and that message is not concealed by the clatter of phrases. What in practical terms is meant by "a pragmatic Conservative economic policy benevolent to private industry" by "shortening the longest corner in the world" by challenging the talents and meeting the aspirations of couples struggling with their mortgages and large and small businesses?

And those who condemn platitudes "should not be caught calling for a more sensitive appreciation of the economic facts of life as known to millions of individual voters", which beats all for ornamental vacuity. We suffer, and for twenty-five years have suffered, from gross over-manning throughout the nation. We are paying a high price for that rather than for the remedy.

The question is simply, "Dare we postpone the correction till after the election?" Three times before this, in earlier times, the nation turned away from the unfinished task. What would a fourth retreat mean for national morale, British industry and the future of the Conservative Party?

It is bad luck that a resolute government coincides with a world depression, but nations which evade issues must expect bad luck. Now squeezing out over-manning inflates unemployment — but dare we defer it? "If not us, who? If not now, when?"

In my estimation few in the Conservative Party have changed their attitudes, but as the scene darkens some grow bolder and others more worried. My four colleagues could have written their letter two years ago; and I might have written this one two years ago; but I have never pretended otherwise.

I have the honour to remain, Sir, Your obedient servant, RONALD M. BELL, House of Commons.

From Mr C. G. H. Allen

Speakers at the Conservative conference will inevitably call for a relaxation of the Government's economic policies based on the argument that reducing unemployment has now become a more pressing problem than reducing inflation. The great fallacy of this argument seems to be that it is based on the premise that somehow the two are not closely linked.

What we are witnessing in industry today is a very belated recognition of the fact that we are one of the most over-manned industrial countries in the Western world and one of the least productive. If one adds to that the fact that since the last war our level of inflation has in most years been running ahead of our competitors, it is no surprise that we are being forced to reduce our overheads in every way we can.

High unemployment is in every

## Labour alternative

From Sir Leslie Smith

Sir, I believe there is now a growing need for a more public debate on a subject which I know to be under consideration in many British boardrooms. It is the subject of public contributions and defence will be greatly diminished and increased unemployment, no doubt masked temporarily by additional state employees, is bound to follow. The damage is incalculable.

I do not think I exaggerate. History and the world around us provide examples in plenty of the economic consequences of the policies to which Labour is now devoted. If the threat was not political it is clear that we would be failing in our duty to our shareholders and to our fellow employees if we did not do everything possible within the law to prevent such damage to our country.

But the threat is political and we live in a democracy in which the government, presumed to be acting in the national interest, holds sovereign power. Does this affect the performance of our duty, as we see it? Should our response include support for those political parties who would preserve the private sector?

I write in my personal capacity and in due course, my Board will make up its collective mind. Yours faithfully, LESLIE SMITH, Chairman, BOC International Ltd, Hammersmith House, W6.

## Closed churches

From the Reverend Hugh Wilcox

Sir, Mr Peter Brooks (October 5) complains that in churches he has recently visited "there was no indication of where the key could be found". This is to assume that it is perfectly safe to leave a key for anyone who cares to, to collect it.

We presume that Mr Brooks is a trustworthy person, from the fact that he is a *Times* reader! But how is a keyholder to know whether the person calling for the church door key is genuine like Mr Brooks, an eager church visitor with the best of motives, or someone who has a van round the corner into which he will load everything of value?

Even if the visitor is trustworthy, what does he do if he is followed into the church by a gang of hooligans, determined to play football, or a dog lover who allows his dog to foul the church, or a tobacco addict determined to combine disrespect with fire risk? All these things and many more have happened in this church, and

sense of the word a very undesirable state of affairs but I think it would be wrong to look for a quick answer. Of course old-style reflation can provide a temporary respite, but one of the reasons why we are in our present situation is that we have tried that remedy too often in the past and it has always contributed to more inflation and more unemployment.

It is extremely unfortunate that the Government attempts to reduce inflation which has served to increase the level of unemployment. People are being asked to make sacrifices to achieve a lower level of inflation, but the problem is that many of them can't remember the overall prosperity which low inflation produced in the 1950s. So they complain when unemployment reaches a certain level and they ask for what? — more doses of the same palliative which in the past has only produced more inflation.

People ask for consensus politics — what does this mean? Inevitably policies which have been tried and failed in the past. After all, if any person or party had some new ideas wouldn't we all be prepared to give them a try? Consensus problems require painful remedies. Unfortunately most of us seem to have lost the appetite for unpleasant medicine and cannot or will not accept that it offers the chance of success.

Pursuing consensus policies offers the chance of reelection for politicians. Thank goodness we have at least one politician who is honest enough to be pursuing policies which she knows are hard to accept, but she believes will bring long term prosperity if adhered to for a while longer.

Yours faithfully, C. G. H. ALLEN, 31 Campden Hill Road, W.8

From Sir Kenneth Corley

Sir, I have never had to run the country but I have had considerable experience in running a sizeable industrial company. As a result I know that a company can turn into loss with frightening speed especially if orders disappear.

Conversely, it takes a dreadfully long time to turn a loss into a profit, simply because changes in policy, factory closures, redundancies, streamlining all take a very long time to become effective. A decision taken by a board of directors one day may take a couple of years to show its effect in the company balance sheet. I must take very considerably longer to turn around the economy of the nation from loss-making to profitability.

This raises the question of whether any government has sufficient time to produce results before it is dismissed and the next lot take over and put the whole process into reverse. Perhaps this is the most serious of our malaises because it is incurable. But I feel quite sure that those who clamour and demand change of direction because results have not been achieved after only two years, or even less, either do not understand what is involved or else are deliberately rocking the boat.

Yours faithfully, KENNETH CORLEY, Yewtree, Wasdale, Seascale, Cumbria.

include the flight of foreign capital, the shrinking of our exports and the emigration of our most skilled — all of which will lead inexorably to an acceleration of our economic decline. The funds required to support the needs of education, social services and defence will be greatly diminished and increased unemployment, no doubt masked temporarily by additional state employees, is bound to follow. The damage is incalculable.

I do not think I exaggerate. History and the world around us provide examples in plenty of the economic consequences of the policies to which Labour is now devoted. If the threat was not political it is clear that we would be failing in our duty to our shareholders and to our fellow employees if we did not do everything possible within the law to prevent such damage to our country.

But the threat is political and we live in a democracy in which the government, presumed to be acting in the national interest, holds sovereign power. Does this affect the performance of our duty, as we see it? Should our response include support for those political parties who would preserve the private sector?

I write in my personal capacity and in due course, my Board will make up its collective mind. Yours faithfully, LESLIE SMITH, Chairman, BOC International Ltd, Hammersmith House, W6.

## IRA bomb in Chelsea

From Dr Brian Harrison

Sir, In its statement issued through the Irish Republican publicity bureau in Dublin, the IRA takes responsibility for the bomb which killed one woman and injured 40 people in Chelsea on Saturday, and attributes this attack "to the state of war which exists between the British Government who occupy Ireland and the oppressed Irish people who strike out through the IRA."

I suppose those who direct IRA policy are now so insulated and out of touch with reality that there is no hope of persuading them how futile is any campaign of indiscriminate violence on the British mainland as a way of coercing the British people into neglecting the wishes (however misguided) which have been repeatedly expressed by the majority in Northern Ireland through elections referenda and even strike action.

But, just for the record, and in case there is anyone to hear, perhaps it is worth pointing out that such campaigns are not politically counter-productive and eventually abandoned several times in the past — in the 1880s, in 1939 and throughout the 1970s; that no British government could conduct a "dirty war" unless strongly backed by members of the British public drawn from every political persuasion; and that, like the aptly-named "dirty protest" before it, such a squalid strategy lowers the dignity of the cause that it is being promoted and denies all credibility to the IRA's claim that it represents decent Irish people.

Yours faithfully, BRIAN HARRISON, Corpus Christi College, Oxford, October 11.

From the Leader of the Greater London Council

Sir, Your report of my views on IRA violence (October 13) requires a detailed response to indicate the arguments that were omitted.

I abhor all violence. Murder on London's streets is shocking, and it is unacceptable. The bomb attack on Saturday emphasises that a permanent solution to the troubles of Ireland is essential, not just for Ireland itself, but for all parts of Britain.

The point that I was trying to make is that to seek to crush the IRA as if they were simply criminals or lunatics will not work. It is the policy that has been tried for generations and still the killing persists. The IRA bombers and their supporters believe that they have strong political motives. For this reason, if one is caught others come forward to take his place. This is not the case with individually motivated psychopaths; once arrested, the crimes cease.

Government intransigence over the H-Block hunger strike intensified tension and sadly acted as a recruiting sergeant for the IRA. The Government tells us that financial support from North America increased when the deaths began. It is this support which enables the IRA to operate.

It must be obvious to all but the most stubborn that a political solution is the only way to bring about lasting peace. That solution will be hard to achieve, but we will not even start to find it if military action is our sole response to Ireland's troubles.

Yours sincerely, KEN LIVINGSTONE, Member of the Lobby, The County Hall, London SE1, October 13.

## Maritime policy

From the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Trade

Sir, I was surprised to see in Mrs Young's letter (October 5) that it was thought that I would "make policy" on maritime affairs but that Mr Eyre would be "the spokesman".

Mr Eyre was indeed the spokesman in the House of Commons, when Lord Trefgarne was the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State with responsibility for these matters. However, following my appointment to the Department, the Secretary of State has given me special responsibility for maritime affairs, both as a "policy maker" and as a "spokesman".

Yours faithfully, IAIN SPROAT, Department of Trade, 1 Victoria Street, SW1, October 6.

## Different date

From Mr K. J. Whinney

Sir, Please may I trespass briefly on your columns to correct two inaccuracies in Philip Howard's article of October 5?

He stated that 1879 was the year in which "Mary Baker Eddy invented Christian Science". First, Mary Baker Eddy did not "invent" Christian Science; she discovered it. Second, the year of her discovery was 1856, not 1879; 1879 was the year in which she founded The Church of Christ Scientist.

Yours faithfully, K. J. WHINNEY, 34 Southdown Avenue, N3, October 5.

## Phun in the month

From Mr Bernard Levin

Sir, Mr Nigel a Brassard's letter today, (October 12) inquiring as to the correct pronunciation of Bertie's surname, overlooks the fact that Bertie himself settles the question in *Carry on Jeeps*, where he tells of a cove hight Kegworthy who, on being introduced to him, asks whether the name is spelt W-o-r-c-e-s-t-e-r.

Pepsy, now... I was, Sir, your obedient servant, BERNARD LEVIN, 10 Devonshire Place, W1, October 13.

## ONCE MORE UNTO THE IRISH BREACH

The new Secretary of State for Northern Ireland gave his fellow Conservatives yesterday a first sight of his priorities. Like Mr Roy Mason, who would probably win a poll in Northern Ireland for the best of the proconsuls so far, Mr James Prior emphasises the need to support the Ulster economy and the need to pursue terrorists relentlessly in all quarters, and he is aware of the interaction of those two fields of policy. Unlike Mr Mason, who found the province suffering from a surfeit of politicians and paid them relative neglect while courting businessmen, trade union leaders and other solid citizens, Mr Prior, confronted with the same excess of politicians, is determined to find them something to do.

He believes they will have less opportunity for mischief if given employment. He also has larger reasons for imparting some political momentum: it would assist revival of confidence in the economy, especially inward investment; it would help to stretch the patience of the rest of the United Kingdom, which expects the component representatives of Northern Ireland to be capable of some mutual conciliation; and he might have added, it would take some of the pressure off British embassies abroad.

It adds up to a good case for having another fling at the reconstruction of devolved government. But Mr Prior should not be in too much of a hurry. The present prospect for the necessary minimum of agreement or acquiescence is

as bad as it has been for a long time. The Social Democratic and Labour Party when last heard of was taking the Haughey line that Northern Ireland is a failed political entity and that proposals for self-governing institutions in that context are a waste of breath. Unionists, having twice watched the nationalist vote in Fermanagh and South Tyrone go to the Provisionals or their front men, are "reinforced" in their standing objection to cooperating in government with nationalists (still presumably a sine qua non of devolution) their objection being that they cannot trust in government politicians whose avowed ambition is to undermine the constitutional status quo. At the same time the two communities represented by these parties have been temporarily driven further apart than ever by emotions surrounding the Maze hunger strike.

The hunger strike is now over, on terms in which the IRA can take no satisfaction. But the prison protest is not yet over. Mr Prior has offered generous settlement. Republican prisoners, needless to say, are looking his gift horse in the mouth. They are demanding "clarification" before making up their minds and no doubt hope to draw Lord Gowrie, who has immediate ministerial responsibility for prisons, into something like negotiation. That must not be allowed to happen. Mr Prior was justified yesterday in asserting that (with the exception of the amount of restored remission) he is

offering no more than was on offer since midsummer. The offer is on a take-it-or-leave-it basis. It is therefore a pity that when he made it he was not ready to come out with a cut-and-dried list of changes in prison regulation leaving no room for "clarification".

If it was simply a matter of deserting the protesting prisoners would have been offered no concessions at all in return for good behaviour. But Mr Prior and his predecessor rightly wished to make of the collapse of the hunger strike an opportunity to return to constructive and conciliatory politics in Northern Ireland. But that speculative advantage is not worth buying at the price of enlarging the concessions already tabled. If the IRA wishes to reject the offer and continue its prison defiance by remaining "on the blanket" or by other means, so be it.

There was one nuance in Mr Prior's speech that will be fallen upon by analysts both in unionist committee rooms and in Iveagh House. The famous Ulster guarantee, which both parties to the partition issue set such store by, came out as the British people standing by "the desire of the majority in Northern Ireland to retain their United Kingdom connexions". It does not sound quite the same as no change in the constitutional status of Northern Ireland. "Connexions" is a funny word to use of people whose territory has formed part of the United Kingdom for 150 years. It is just Mr Prior's way of talking, or is it his way of thinking?

## Inflation tax

From Professor Richard Layard

Sir, In your leader of October 10 you ask in relation to the inflation tax proposal, "What is there to stop firms passing it on in the form of price increases?". The answer is this. The full proceeds of the tax will be handed back to industry by cutting the rate of National Insurance Surcharge. In this way the tax burden will be shifted from low-inflation firms to high-inflation firms. But the total tax burden will be unchanged and there will thus be no net increase in tax that could be passed on. (Of the National Insurance Surcharge did not exist, the tax proceeds could of course be handed back in a payroll subsidy administered jointly with the tax).

Since passing on is no problem, the key issue is how the tax will affect wages. Suppose that at worst an individual firm or employers' association assumes that the tax will have no effect on wages and prices in the rest of the economy. It has however itself a new incentive to hold down its own wages, since a wage increase of say £1 will now cost it not £1 but £1.50 or £2, depending on the tax rate. The firm will therefore end up paying less — and so will all other firms.

In your same issue, Julian Haviland and Geoffrey Smith both

argue that the tax will discourage expanding firms by taxing them if they raise their relative wages in order to attract labour. But this ignores the major benefits to expanding firms (and others) from the fact that the economy could now be run at a permanently higher level of activity. These benefits would far outweigh any "microeconomic" costs.

No one has suggested any other feasible policy that could substantially lower long-run unemployment without increasing inflation. An old-style incomes policy, which suspended free collective bargaining, could never be permanently in force in a free society. And without some other stick to beat inflation we shall have to endure permanently high unemployment.

Yours faithfully, RICHARD LAYARD, Centre for Labour Economics, London School of Economics and Political Science, Houghton Street, WC2.

## Constituency vote

From Mrs Jean Northam

Sir, I refer to today's article (September 25) on the Constituency vote in the Labour Party's Deputy Leadership election. It was highly misleading to cite the vote taken at the Tiverton con-

stituency meeting in support of the argument that the more widely opinion was canvassed the more the decision would favour Denis Healey.

It would not be possible to have canvassed more widely than we did. Every single member was offered the option of voting by post if attendance at the meeting were impossible. About one third of the votes were cast in this way. Benn received nearly 50 per cent of the first choice votes, and when the second choice votes were distributed according to second choice, Benn emerged with 75 per cent of the total.

It is true that about 55 per cent of our membership neither attended the meeting nor asked for a postal vote, though everyone was notified by post. One must at the very least question whether most of these people supported any of the candidates with any conviction. If that is the kind of support Healey has, it is scarcely enthusiastic. As a constituency party, we deserve credit for making every attempt to gain a representative vote.

Yours faithfully, JEAN NORTHAM, Chairman, Tiverton Constituency Labour Party, Lilyvale, Huxham, Exeter. September 25.



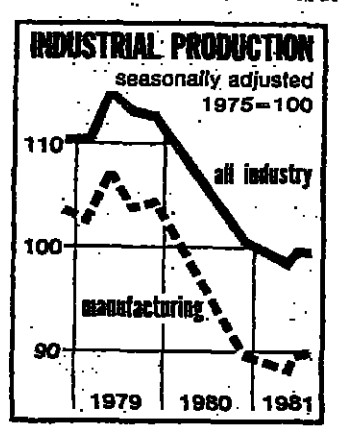




## Treasury sees upturn in manufacturing

By David Blake, Economics Editor

Industrial production fell slightly in August because of a drop in North Sea oil and gas production. Manufacturing output rose for the third successive month, suggesting that it touched bottom round about May of this year. The Treasury yesterday claimed that the latest figures showed signs of an upturn in manufacturing and that this conclusion was consistent with other information, such as that contained in Confederation of British Industry surveys. The CBI, however, denied that they saw any signs of upturn.



The figures, all of which relate to the period just before the latest rise in interest rates, suggest that the industrial sector of the economy probably touched bottom round about mid-summer. Total industrial output was up by 0.7 per cent in the three months to August, while manufacturing output went up by 1.9 per cent in the same period.

The best performance in August was recorded by the food and textile industries. The output of food, drink and tobacco went up by 4 per cent

in the month, and textile, footwear and clothing output rose by 5 per cent.

Both industries had been relatively depressed in the previous two months, and the recovery may have been a belated "catching-up" with output in other sectors of the economy.

Over the three months to the end of August, the star performers were chemicals (up 5.4 per cent) and metal manufacturing (up 2.5 per cent). Both of these industries did particularly well in June, which may make the three-monthly figures slightly distorted.

The increase in manufacturing output to date from the low levels recorded in the spring has been concentrated in the consumer goods and intermediate sectors. They benefited particularly from an end to destocking, while investment goods showed no sign at all of moving off the bottom.

Total manufacturing output has been spectacularly bad during the current recession, falling by nearly a fifth from its level in the spring of 1979. Much of the drop has been caused by a rundown of stocks depressing demand, even though sales in the High Street have held up well.

As destocking comes to an end, manufacturing can be expected to do better than the economy as a whole next year. Chemicals are likely to perform well and many commentators also expect a recovery in the engineering industry.

But the gain in output is not generally expected to top about 3 per cent next year, which would leave total production far below the 1979 level. Many economists expect total output to start showing renewed signs of weakness during 1982.

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## Lever plan to end currency 'casino'

By Frances Williams

The West faces a grim period of crisis unless rapid moves are made to reform the world monetary system and stabilize its currencies, a former Labour Cabinet minister said yesterday. The warning came from Lord Lever of Manchester in a lecture at the London School of Economics, attended by a distinguished audience from the academic world, the City, and the Civil Service. Professor Alan Walters, the Prime Minister's special economic adviser, was among them.

Lord Lever claimed that the floating rate system of currencies after the disintegration of the Bretton Woods agreement in 1971 had turned the world currency markets into a "casino".

Advocates of floating rates had offered a false prospect of reasonably stable exchange rates based on fundamental economic factors, an end to balance-of-payments problems, greater economic autonomy for individual nations and an end to the dollar's pre-eminence.

Instead, the world had seen a huge increase in speculative currency movements. Every businessman with cash in the bank now asks himself what currency to hold it in, Lord Lever said. The foreign exchange markets were dragging in all the citizenry, traders and governments, as well as professional syndicates who could stampede the markets.

Every day \$7,500 was traded on the spot markets, 50 to 100 times world trade requirements. Flows in and out of currencies could have a devastating impact on individual economies, as recent British experience demonstrated.

Lord Lever also castigated the world banking system for lending huge sums to developing countries to finance their balance-of-payments deficits after the oil price rises of 1973 and 1974.

Developing countries could repay their debts only by further borrowing, which in turn could be serviced only by even more borrowing, leading to a snowballing of debts.

Lord Lever claimed that a stable currency system was a precondition for world prosperity. Nations must devise a means for greater international co-operation.

He outlined a three-point programme. First, the institution of mechanisms to ensure an orderly and efficient functioning of the world financial system to stabilize currencies and to support them at agreed levels. This would involve target exchange rates for major trading nations with appropriate arrangements for adjustment.

Second, a coherent strategy for helping developing countries to finance balance-of-payments deficits and avoid snowballing debt. Third, an end to the currency race and high interest rate competition.

But Lord Lever, who said he was a passionate supporter of the principle of the European Monetary System, was shocked to the core by Mr Edward Heath's call for a ring fence round Europe. This was a total misunderstanding of what the European Community was, the EMS stood for and Lord Lever said this allied Mr Heath to the Beanie wing of the Labour Party.

## Hoveringham group bought for £40m Tarmac catches its quarry

By Our Financial Staff

Tarmac, one of the United Kingdom's largest roadstone and construction companies, has emerged as the £40m purchaser for Hoveringham, the quarrying group, which put itself up for sale in August.

The group had been a takeover favourite for some time before the sale announcement and the cash deal will give the controlling and founding Needler family almost £21m for its stake, which represents 75 per cent of the voting shares.

Mr Christopher Needler, who took over as chairman six years ago from his father Harold, will be joining the Tarmac board. At the time Hoveringham announced the sale it said that the family trustees had decided to diversify their investment.

Tarmac is acquiring Hoveringham's strong reserves in the South-east and Midlands, where it is weaker. The group, which last year made £2.5m pre-tax profit, owns 900 acres of land in the Trent Valley with high quality sand and gravel.

The Needler family has extensive interests in Canada and Mr Needler also has a stake in Hull City Football Club. In recent years the group has diversified into insurance broking, waste disposal and leisure but its main business remains sand and gravel quarrying and its ready-made cement business.

The offer, being made by Tarmac's subsidiary Roadstone, is for 22p a share for every Hoveringham ordinary share and 196p for every restricted voting share. The shares were suspended on August 18, when



Mr Needler: joining the Tarmac board.

the family put the group up for auction, at 89p for the ordinary and 77p for the restricted, giving a £15.6m price on the company.

But with net assets at 175p per share—valuing the group conservatively at £29.3m—a higher offer was expected. Even so, the City was surprised at the doubled price offered by Tarmac and Hoveringham's shares returned at 219p and

189p respectively. Tarmac, which is financing the deal partly by cash and partly by the placing of 6.3m shares, saw its own shares drop 14p to 344p on the news.

Tarmac took part in negotiations from the start but does not know what other parties showed interest, although Redland, English China Clays and Ready-Mixed Concrete are believed to have done so.

## British Gas ordered to sell Wythch Farm stake

By Edward Townsend

British Gas yesterday received the long-expected direction from the Government to sell its stake in the Wythch Farm oil field in Dorset.

The direction, signed by Mr Nigel Lawson, Secretary of State for Energy, is the latest move in the Government's controversial plan for partial nationalization of Britain's gas industry, which has been fiercely opposed by Sir Denis Rooke, the British Gas chairman.

The Wythch Farm order, laid before Parliament on June 26, has now been served on British Gas after the expiry, under the terms of the Gas Act 1972, of 40 Commons sitting days. Sir Denis has described the order as "a heavy blow" to the corporation.

British Gas and BP each hold a 50 per cent interest in the production licence covering the Dorset field. With much exploration work still to be undertaken, the gas corporation has also declined to put a value on its share.

BP is among a number of potential buyers for the British Gas share. The Department of Energy has already stressed that it will be a commercial sale and there is no obligation to sell to a British buyer. Canadica, the British onshore oil exploration company, said in July it was considering arranging a consortium of oil interests on financial institutions to purchase the stock.

The Wythch Farm field began oil production in 1979

## BL unions fear plan to axe engines

By Clifford Webb  
Midlands Industrial  
Correspondent

BL Cars' decision to close its Coventry Engines plant has raised fears among union leaders that at worst it is planning to pull out of engine production altogether and at best to reduce production to what they regard as totally unacceptable levels.

Their concern comes after reports that BL is negotiating a deal on engines with Volkswagen. In addition to the engines already being imported from Japan for the Honda-designed Triumph Acclaim.

The unions say the plan to move engine work from Coventry to Longbridge indicates that it has considerable spare capacity there. This would not now be taken up by a new generation of engines when the present A, E and O series power units end their useful life.

In March, BL announced that it had signed a contract with Volkswagen to buy Golf gearboxes for the LM 20 and LM 11, the first and second models in the LC 10 range of light-medium family cars. Deliveries will start towards the end of next year when the LM 10 goes into production, ready for launching in February, 1983.

It also confirmed that it was involved in talks about collaboration with other foreign motor manufacturers.

Mr Harold Musgrove, head of BL's light-medium car operations, told union leaders on Monday that the company had no intention of pulling out of engine production. He said the 1000 and 1300 cc A and the 1750 cc O series engines, used in the Mini Metro, Princess and Aladin, would be refined further to extend their life.

The E series was being withdrawn for a short time, because of the ending of Maxi production and next year's phasing out of the Allegro, but it would reappear in a much-restructured form for the LM 10.

Professor Ernest Fiala, the Volkswagen board member in charge of engineering, research and development, revealed recently that the company had developed a new three-cylinder engine for the Polo. This led to speculation that BL wants to buy it for later versions of the Aladin Metro.

But the professor also hinted that if the present study led to concrete proposals for a new family of jointly developed engines there was a possibility that BL could supplement Volkswagen's restricted engine capacity.

A spokesman for BL said last night: "We have had exploratory talks with Volkswagen on undertaking a feasibility study for a joint programme to develop a new engine family. Those talks have only just started and are at a very early stage. They could go either way."

"We have not discussed buying engines from them, or importing anything other than gearboxes."

## Cavwin buys assets of Ronson Products

By Philip Robinson

Former auctioneer Mr Jeffrey Port has bought the assets and name of the collapsed Ronson Products group through his private company Cavwin for an undisclosed sum. But it will mean all but 77 of 419 remaining jobs will be lost.

Mr Brian Larkins, the joint receiver, of accountants Price Waterhouse said that redundancy notices were issued yesterday. The group employed 1,250 workers at the time Barclays Bank appointed receivers. Mr Port has already put Ronson's 230,000 sq ft factory in Leatherhead, Surrey, up for sale for between £3.5m and £5m.

Yesterday Mr Port said: "I'm happy to disclose the price of the Ronson Products deal. I'm proud of it, but I have given an undertaking not to do so."

Mr Larkins said: "That was not what he said on Monday night when the deal was signed. We agreed not to disclose the figure. I have not seen him this morning."

But though Mr Port has handed over the cheque, Mr Larkins says it will not satisfy the preferential and secured creditors, the largest of which, Barclays Bank, is owed an estimated £9m.

That loan was guaranteed for Ronson Products by its American parent, Ronson Corporation. But the corporation itself has also borrowed money from Ronson Products and is one of a number of debtors on which the secured and preferential creditors rely if they are to be paid in full.

Mr Larkins said: "If Ronson Corporation do pay up as debtors then it will reduce their liability on the guarantee of the loan because it will all go into one pot." He added that the price of the whole deal will be revealed at some point, but could not say when.

Redundancy notices were issued yesterday to 103 people at West Chilton, Tynemouth, all but six on the workforce, of 220 of a total 291 people at Leatherhead and the entire 19 staff at Ronson's London offices in The Strand.

## Training tax hint for employers

By Mark Jackson

A remissible tax on employers to pay for training similar to the system operated in France is being considered by Mr Norman Tebbit, Secretary of State for Employment. It would mean that all but the smallest companies would have to spend the same percentage of their wage bill on training or pay the money to the Government.

Mr Geoffrey Holland, director of the Manpower Services Commission, told the British Association of Commercial and Industrial Education conference at Wembley yesterday that he believed the Employment Secretary appeared to be interested in the idea.

The French pattern could offer the Government a way out of its present dilemma. It wants to ensure that training to escape the tax without retaining the statutory training boards.

The training boards get their money by imposing a levy which is superficially like the French system where employers have to pay for training or show that they are turning out enough trainees for their own requirements.

All French employers, apart from the very smallest, have to spend the same percentage of their wage bill on training to escape the tax. The amount is fixed annually by the Government and companies have to file returns showing how they have spent the money.

## Unigate buys US restaurants

By Our Financial Staff

Unigate, one of Britain's leading milk and dairy products groups, has bought an American restaurant and fast food chain called Casa Bonita for \$32.5m (£17m).

Casa Bonita is a privately-owned group formed in 1967 and has 59 restaurants. The company's growth and financial performance has been swift, with sales in 1981 totalling \$50m with pre-tax profits at \$5m.

Mr John Clement, Unigate's chairman, said: "Casa Bonita is a highly successful, well-managed enterprise with strong growth potential. Unigate will be able to encourage and stimulate that growth, while logically extending our existing Unigate food manufacturing interests."

The move represents the first of its kind into the United States by Unigate. Its current interests there embrace a number of these companies.

In the Casa Bonita chain there are three distinct types of restaurant. Those using the Casa Bonita name are four "family entertainment centres" designed as a complete Mexican village.

There are also 40 Taco Bueno establishments serving the same Mexican menu as the Casa Bonita restaurants. The group's newest venture, Crystal's, brings the family entertainment centre concept of Casa Bonita to a pizza and spaghetti menu.

## Japan plays for time over key trade talks

From Jan Murray, Brussels, Oct 13

Negotiations for a meeting between Japan and its two largest trading partners—the United States and the European Community—on export restraint have slowed down but are continuing. A suggested meeting in New York sometime next week will now not take place, but Japanese officials here today insisted that any reasonable proposal for the meeting would be favourably considered.

Behind the Japanese reluctance to fix an early meeting is a dispute inside the Government. The Trade Department is keen to have the meeting, whereas the Foreign Department would prefer to delay possibly until after a new round of GATT negotiations early next year.

Members of a Japanese trade delegation touring Europe were given a less than friendly reception at the European Commission last week when Herr Wilhelm Haferkamp, the commissioner responsible for external affairs, told them that the prospect of \$15,000m (£8,000m) EEC trade deficit with Japan "is close to the limits of what is economically and politically tolerable".

Japanese trade officials, worried about possible protectionist measures, continue to stress

that Japan is an open market to Europe and are anxious to make this point again in meetings. The Foreign Department, aware that the subject is worsening Japan's international relations, are less keen.

A Japanese Cabinet reshuffle is expected next month and it could be that it would be counterproductive at this stage for the EEC and America to hold such a bilateral meeting. Growing pressure within Europe for some kind of protectionist measures against Japanese products such as cars, electronic equipment and machine tools means however, that the meeting cannot be put off for too long.

Japan will work out emergency import measures within the next two months to counter its booming exports and avoid trade friction with Western Europe and the United States. Reuter reports. An international trade talks and industry Ministry spokesman said, a special committee would be formed today to discuss how to increase imports of natural resources and manufactured and agricultural products in line with the official Japanese policy adopted on October 2.

Specific topics will include easing tariff restrictions on imports of whisky, chocolate, biscuits and other goods.

### Stock Markets

FT Index 484.6 down 6.4  
FT Gilts 61.97 down 0.35

### Sterling

\$1.8575 down 145 pts  
Index \$8.2 down 0.3  
New York: \$1.8570

### Dollar

Index 107.1 up 0.9  
DM 2.2137 up 287 pts

### Gold

\$443.25 down \$5.25  
New York: \$448

### Money

3 mth sterling 15½-15½  
3 mth Euro \$ 15½-15½  
6 mth Euro \$ 16-15½

### PRICE CHANGES

#### Rises

Atlantic Res	25p to 270p
Amal Metal	5p to 400p
Bk of Ireland	5p to 283p
Baynes	5p to 145p
McLeod Russel	5p to 325p
Mercury Sees	5p to 230p
Mount Lyall	5p to 315p
Peko Wallsend	5p to 405p
Portland Hols	5p to 405p
Steel Bros	10p to 225p

#### Falls

Broken Hill	12p to 703p
Electrocomps	10p to 130p
Eng Assoc Grp	10p to 140p
Kluge	18p to 767p
Intecape	10p to 283p
Pittsburg Bros	10p to 258p
Sainsbury J	10p to 440p
Tarmac	14p to 344p
Thorn EMI	10p to 435p
Utd Scientific	15p to 468p

## Boost from pipeline

Orders worth £104m for equipment for the gas pipeline to run from Siberia to Western Europe have been won by John Brown Engineering of Clydebank.

A contract to supply 21 gas turbines for the 3,500 mile pipeline has been backed up by orders for spare parts and further equipment, making John Brown easily the biggest British contributor to the project.

Mr Graham Strachan, group managing director, said the orders would help to secure employment for the workforce for the next two years.

## 800 jobs lost

Workers at the American-owned Caterpillar tractor factory at Uddingston, near Glasgow, were told yesterday that 800 of the 2,300 jobs would have to go through voluntary redundancy or early retirement by the end of next February.

## Palace payout

A cheque for £18.4m, covering fire damage last year to Alexandra Palace, will be handed over next Monday to the London Borough of Haringey by the Municipal Mutual Insurance Company. It will be the largest payment made on an insured building.

### TODAY

Average earnings and basic wage rates.  
Company results: Rockware, Steel Brothers Holdings, Empire Stores, Honda Motor, Marshalls Universal (all half-year).

### BUSINESS BRIEFING

## British Telecom's rival is given the go-ahead

The Government has given the consortium headed by Cable & Wireless permission to operate a telecommunications network in competition with British Telecom (BTI Johnstone writes).

A letter of intent was issued by the Department of Industry last week and received by the state-owned company on Monday.

Later this month the Government is to place about 49 per cent of Cable & Wireless shares on sale for about £200m.

Cable & Wireless, in partnership with BP and Barclays Mer-

chant Bank, intends to lay about 1,300 kilometres of fibre optic cable in the first stage of a network expected to be operational by 1983.

The consortium is still negotiating with British Rail over the possibility of laying the telecommunication cables beside the railway tracks. The cable will carry signals expected to be voice and data, between main business centres within the United Kingdom.

Microwave radio links will be used to transmit signals within cities.

### CHANNEL OIL SEARCH

Applications have been submitted to the French Government for permission to drill for oil in two new areas of the English Channel.

Total and Elf have jointly applied for a five-year permit for 2,180 square kilometres near the Channel Islands, while the French exploration subsidiary of British Petroleum has applied for a five-year permit for 1,125 square kilometres off the Côtes du Nord.

## Tin nations want more

Tin producing countries are likely to press for an increase of up to 10 per cent in the metal's price at the meeting of the International Tin Council in London tomorrow.

Australia, Bolivia, Indonesia, Nigeria, Thailand and Zaïre are reported to have agreed not to settle for an increase of less than 10 per cent.

## Limit on granny bonds raised

More evidence of the Government's determination to increase its share of the savings market came yesterday with the announcement that the maximum holding of index-linked National Savings Certificates is to be raised from £3,000 to £5,000, from October 19.

The certificates, previously known as granny bonds and restricted to individuals at or approaching retirement age, were made available to everyone last month.

In a vast company reorganization Société Générale de Belgique is to offer five of its own shares for every nine Union Minière shares and two of its shares plus shares in a new company for every three shares in Fininvest, the holding company.

## EEC stock exchange favoured

Mr Christopher Tugendhat, the EEC budget commissioner, told the European Parliament yesterday that he favours the creation of a European stock market. Speaking during a debate on stock exchanges in the Community, he said this could be achieved by creating close links between national

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## BSC Industry It pays to get moving







BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

## Political tinge to interest rate falls

Political moves often catch financial markets on the hop and yesterday's half-point base rate cut to 15½ per cent by Barclays and Lloyds was just such a case. The banks' action was nicely timed for the opening of the Conservative Party conference and will doubtless add a touch of optimism to the Chancellor's address to the troops.

Clearly the weakness of sterling over the past two days which had spilled over to the equity market had prompted dealers to expect that interest rates would be maintained at 16 per cent. And the continuing shortages in the money markets with the seven-day inter-bank rate staying at 15½ per cent tended to confirm this view.

On commercial grounds, therefore, the banks at present will find the cuts difficult to justify. They have obviously taken a view that since US prime rates, which fell to 18 per cent yesterday, are pointing firmly downward, the Prime Minister's strategy can safely be given an encouraging boost at a time when it is sorely needed. Additionally, the banks have amply demonstrated to the building societies just how swiftly and flexibly they can move rates. While a half-point cut in base and deposit rates will have no immediate impact on the 15 per cent mortgage rate effective from November 1, it may prove that the BSA was a little hasty in insisting the recommended rate last Friday.

Much depends, however, on whether yesterday's cuts, which are certain to be followed by Natwest and Midland, are merely cosmetic or are a signal that we are entering a period of volatile interest rates made possible by the recent changes in the money market mechanism. The answer is probably a bit of both. A confidence booster will do no harm either to industry or the serried ranks at Blackpool. And if the gilt market picks up the banks' optimism this morning, then the £1,000m, partly paid Exchequer stock which will be operated as a long tap, should attract buyers.

In the immediate future, the trend of interest rates will be determined by what transpires on Wall Street where there is optimism that primes will touch 16 per cent before too long. Longer-term, the battles in Cabinet over spending cuts and taxation hold the key. The jury on interest rates is still out.

● **Tarmac Roadstone** thinks that *Hoveringham* is worth £40m, which looks a lot but is not too much for Tarmac to swallow. Tarmac has a £200m market capitalization and only half the consideration is in cash. The rest comes from an institutional share placing. In terms of earnings Tarmac faces dilution this year (to December) but probably very little next year as the Tarmac management gets to grips with *Hoveringham's* margins. In terms of asset value the last *Hoveringham* current cost accounts indicated that the group was worth around 212p a share which is roughly the same as the Tarmac offer in per share form. The share placing must postpone the feared rights issue for months. Meanwhile, Tarmac's equity ratio is not unduly high at around 44 per cent. Bredon and Cloud Hill Lime, and Mixconcrete may come in for attention as other repositories of gravel but they are tiddlers against *Hoveringham*.

### Imperial Group Search for a strategy

Imperial's cash raising exercise with the sale of its Molins stake and redemption of the BAT loan stock virtually completes the disposals of its peripheral investments which have been steadily sold off to release cash for use in the group's trading activities. The reasons for releasing funds at this particular moment are decidedly vague.

The move does not seem to have been precipitated by cash flow problems.

Indeed, borrowings could be slightly down this year and the profits forecast, made with the dreadful half-year results, of about £83m pretax against 1979-80's £124m still looks good.

However, it is still not clear — and probably will not become so for a while — whether the change in chief executive and with it the switch from a "hands-off" to "hands-on" policy from the top has instilled new life and sense of direction in Imperial. The one sign which outsiders might construe as a change of policy is that on the tobacco side Imperial now seems to be putting greater emphasis on making profits than on maintaining market share at the expense of margins.

This alone, of course, will not solve the underlying problems of the group. Its tobacco and beer operations are part of mature or declining industries, while its attempts to diversify into foods and with the acquisition of Howard Johnson in the United States have yet to prove their worth. The result has been several years of virtually static profits until the sharp decline this year.

Meanwhile, Imperial's shares at 59p rest on the mammoth 17.6 per cent yield — considerably more than investors can get in the gilt market but then the size of the final dividend payment is uncertain. There may just be historic cover for a maintained payout with a low tax charge but the shares are unlikely to move far either way until these doubts are resolved.

### Huntley & Palmer

#### Crumbling fortunes

A change of name (from Associated Biscuit Manufacturers to Huntley & Palmer) has not meant a return to the group's former earning power which has fallen in any event. Hopes that the group could make between £3m to £3.5m before tax in the 38 weeks to September 13 were dashed by the £2.05m actually reported yesterday. It looked good only against the £1.25m of the same weeks the year before. A strong recovery was supposed to have come from the sale of the loss-making German marshmallow and chocolate manufacturer, Dickman, and from better stock control and lower interest rates at home.

Instead, interest charges slipped by only £147,000 to £4.77m thanks to obstinately high interest rates in North America, especially Canada. But this in turn reflects a balance sheet basically split down the middle between borrowings and shareholders' funds.

At home, the biscuit market marked time, but Huntley hopes for a price increase early next year. A lot, however, will depend on the price leader, United Biscuits, which at present seems bent on holding prices down. So down went home trading profits from £4.1m to £3.75 (redundancies cost £500,000) while the rise overseas from £995,000 to £1.99m simply reflected the departure of Dickman.

Profits from associates rose £98,000 to £811,000 thanks to good going at W. and R. Jacob of Dublin. With earnings a share of only 1.2p, it is not surprising to see the interim dividend held at 2.86p gross. Interest rates at home have risen and Huntley will do well to make £10.5m pretax for the year.

This would leave it not much ahead of even the £10.2m of 1975. The food manufacturing sector has been strong recently, helped by good figures from Cadbury Schweppes, Rowntree, AB Foods, to say nothing of United Biscuits' own 50 per cent profits jump in the half year to mid July. Huntley's shares fell only 3p to 67p yesterday. They are still buoyed up by rumours of a bid from Rowntree and others, but by little else.

Peter Hill on how US companies are stepping up their campaign against the Europeans

## Steel imports — an American nightmare

Toronto

The American steel industry is flexing its muscles again, for the third time in four years, the steel Titans find themselves under attack from the outside.

This time the assault on the world's largest single steel market came not from the awesomely efficient Japanese, who after earlier confrontations are now regarded as behaving with commendable restraint. Nor is the American anxiety specifically about the activities of the world's emergent steel industries, although South Korea, Brazil and Taiwan have given offence.

In American eyes, the chief culprits are the recession-battered steel makers of Europe. These are regarded by their American counterparts as irresponsible opportunists seeking to exploit the relatively soft American market at the back of big subsidies from the taxpayer.

The controversy now raging over the surge in imports from Europe is fast becoming a test not only of American steel's vitality but also of the Reagan administration's attitude towards steel as a strategic industry and the President's espousal of the principles of free trade. Not surprisingly, Europe is keenly watching developments over the next two weeks.

On October 29, the United States Steel Corporation, the country's largest steel maker, plans to lodge applications for

an anti-dumping investigation into the imports and will call for the imposition of counter-vailing duties.

Mr David Roderick, head of United States Steel and the industry's principal hawk, has orchestrated a campaign which culminated last week in representations to the steel caucus at Congress.

Firmly denying that his plan of action (which is supported by at least four other substantial producers), represents merely yet another bout of sabre-rattling, he is emphatic that there is no chance of the legal suits being dropped.

"The arrangements are being openly defied. Anyone who says that steel is not being dumped in the United States is being either totally naive or downright dishonest," says Mr Roderick, who is confident of being able to prove that his company and its domestic competitors are being injured.

His sentiments are echoed with equal force by Mr Don Traudlein, head of Bethlehem Steel. "It is like a 15 round boxing match and knowing you are going to be beaten in the fifth or sixth round. What do you do? You take the gloves off," he says.

In the corridors of the Royal York Hotel, Toronto, where they are attending the annual conference of the International Iron and Steel Institute, the American steelmen are pulling no punches as they make their views known.

Alarm bells began ringing in April when it became apparent that the level of imported steel was rising sharply. Europe was, and is, awash with steel and was beginning to benefit from the strengthening of the American dollar against European currencies.

In August total imports reached a new record monthly peak of 2.23 million tons, equivalent to a 25 per cent share of American consumption.

That occurred, say the Americans, because the trigger price mechanism which was developed to monitor import trends was set too low. This mechanism covers a whole range of steel products and sets a base price below which imports may not be sold in the domestic market. Some steel has entered the American market at up to \$100 a ton below domestic prices. On the August figure alone the American steel men claim that they have been deprived of an estimated \$1,000m of potential revenue.

This "surge" which Mr Roderick and his fellow fighters believe continued into last month, may well have set the pattern for the final quarter of this year, although final figures for September imports will not be available until October 28.

The import trend would not perhaps be too worrying were the American market buoyant, but it is not. Demand has declined American mills are cutting output back to 50 to

60 per cent of capacity, and lay offs are increasing. Third and fourth quarters financial statements look likely to be sprinkled liberally with red ink. The August import increase automatically activated a 90-day "surge investigation" by the commerce department which is due to be completed on October 28.

But such has been the vigour with which Mr Roderick and his colleagues have argued their corner that the steel caucus has requested a meeting with the President this month to impress on him the gravity of the industry's plight. The President praised the industry earlier this year for launching an ambitious and long-over due \$5,500m investment programme to replace obsolete capacity.

Mr Roderick says: "I would expect the President to be very supportive to the steel industry in invoking the trade laws after all, he was supportive of the use of the law in the air traffic controllers' dispute". Having failed so far to persuade the Administration to lift trigger prices, the industry now believes that if imports are to be controlled, profits restored, employment maintained and, most important of all, investment is to go ahead, then the trigger price mechanism should have more teeth.

A number of options are being contemplated, but one of the teeth might well involve a mechanism whereby steel entering the United States at

below the trigger price would automatically be assessed for duty. Under the existing regime, investigations into infringements can take up to eight months during which the foreign company's products can still enter the country.

There is sympathy for the American grievances among some Europeans, not least British Steel's chairman, Mr Ian MacGregor who regards the speedy elimination of the surplus steel capacity in the EEC as vital to the resolution of the problems which have been arising between the EEC and the United States.

Others, like West Germany's Dr Dieter Spethmann, head of the Thyssen group, are less than impressed by American complaints. "Europe", he says, "is being unfairly criticised. I am deeply concerned about the possible impact of the action to be taken on the special relationship between the EEC and the United States."

## Retail chains roll up their sleeves for the DIY battle



Another satisfied DIY customer benefitting from increased competition on the high street.

These multiples are accustomed to working on slim margins so that, while securing more profit with DIY than with their traditional grocery lines, they would also easily be capable of working at margins which are low for the sector.

Another high street multiple with aggressive designs on the do-it-yourself market is W. H. Smith, which bought out an 18-outlet DIY chain in 1979 to form the nucleus of its present 31-outlet "Do It All" chain.

Woolworth is now clear leader in the DIY market, because the addition of Dodge City to the recently-acquired B & Q operation — like Dodge the result of entrepreneurial entry into the market — gives it 81 outlets with about 2 million square feet of selling space. This takes no account of the expanding role being given to DIY in Woolworth's own stores.

Next largest is London-based Home Charm, with around 90 stores and some 1 million square feet of selling space. Home Charm's more recent expansion, like that of other established chains, has been into bigger stores which, in Home Charm's case, has been under the Texas Homecare banner.

W. H. Smith has 894,000 square feet of selling space. Marley, the building supplies company, has 57 Marley Homecare outlets which provide a total sales area of some 700,000 square feet. That takes no account of the DIY element in its more traditional building supplies outlets.

The Ready Mixed Concrete DIY subsidiaries of Great Mills and Regent have just under 500,000 square feet of retail space.

A potentially strong performer is Wickes, part of the United States based Wickes Corporation, which has under

20 outlets so far but with plans for at least 100 this decade.

Other contenders aim for different niches in the DIY market. Orpington-based A. G. Stanley has about 700,000 square feet of selling at 250 moderately sized outlets — most under the Fads banner — specialising in paint and wallpaper sales, of which Stanley is one of the country's biggest retailers.

There are also the outlets which specialise in "flat-pack", or ready-to-assemble furniture, while others are in made-up joinery items and timber. The Comet discount chain, for instance, has its Timberland outlet.

The largest do-it-yourself sectors are paint, wallpaper and flat-pack furniture, each accounting for about a quarter of the market. Profit margins are probably at their most squeezed in the decorative materials sector.

Early casualties among the newcomers to the DIY sector are unlikely because even now the multiples probably account for less than 40 per cent of the market. A Polycell survey attributed 27 per cent of the market share to independents and specialised paint and wallpaper outlets, with hardware and ironmongery-outlets accounting for just over 20 per cent, and the builders' merchants 7 per cent.

Since the Polycell survey

the builders' merchants have been fighting back by extending their traditional opening hours to cater for do-it-yourself enthusiasts. But the appeal of the best outlets is the advice that is given on tackling the still expanding range of jobs which the do-it-yourselfer enthusiast is now prepared to tackle.

Manufacturers are also gearing their products to this market partly through simplifications of designs and partly by including literature to explain techniques to the beginner. Plumbing is one area more accessible to the amateur through the development of simplified joining techniques including easy-to-use plastic components.

Recession apart, growth is still evident in the DIY markets albeit at a slower pace. Mr Geoffrey Douglas, analyst at Hoare Govett, believes that on a conservative estimate the DIY market has grown by 40 per cent in the three years to 1980. About the same growth is expected in the following five years.

With recent reports of an improvement in sales in the past few weeks, volume this year might just mark time. But profits are bound to be a sadder story. Woolworth, for one, has been noticeably coy in discussing the level of profits so far at B & Q.

Derek Harris

## Adwest A most difficult year but signs of an improvement



In his annual statement to shareholders, Mr. F. V. Waller, Chairman of Adwest Group Limited, says that the past year has proved to be the most difficult the company can remember having experienced.

Group profits, before extraordinary items and tax, down from £8.3m to £5.5m — reflect the severe recession which has affected the whole U.K. economy and, in particular, the automotive, engineering and construction industries.

However, a total dividend for the year of 7.5p per share is recommended, compared with 7.43p for the previous year.

After reviewing the activities of the Group's subsidiaries, Mr. Waller concludes: "Within our companies we believe the recession has bottomed out and, in certain directions, there are signs of an improvement. All our divisions are operating profitably and efficiently and any improvement in the economic position would be very beneficial. We have continued to invest in new equipment and develop new products. Our cash position remains good, in spite of factory closures and redundancies. The major expenses of the airfield development are now over and we can look forward to an increasing income from rents and the sale of houses. We shall continue to look for new investment opportunities in businesses compatible with our present undertakings."

Copies of the Annual Report, containing the Chairman's Statement to shareholders, are available from the Secretary, Adwest Group Limited, Reading RG5 4SN.

### Adwest Group

AUTOMOTIVE, ELECTRICAL, AGRICULTURAL, INDUSTRIAL AND ENGINEERING PRODUCTS.

## Business Diary: Jobs for the ploys?

As the Tories in Blackpool lay their particular gloss upon the country's three million unemployed, back in London The Advertising Standards Authority today throws its own spotlight on some of the more refined twists of this particular form of purgatory.

It's monthly report of complaints from the public refers to a flourishing industry in recruitment advertisements, which, the association says, "are not what they seem to be."

One complaint investigated by the ASA concerned an applicant for a job as driver/packer at "£90 p.w." who was told that because so many other people wanted the job, the wage was now £75.

Another recruitment advertisement invited applications for the post of cashier, but omitted to say that domestic cleaning duties were also involved.

These two advertisements did at least refer to real jobs, whatever arguments there might be about pay and conditions. The same, however, could not be said for an advertisement in the "Part-time" column of a local newspaper. This said that "Trustworthy leaflet distributors" were required at "£2-£3 hourly" and held out "opportunities (working from home)."

All that respondents re-

ceived was an information sheet on leaflet distribution, a request for a £5 "registration fee" for inclusion on a list of distributors.

This advertisement, one of a number, was no more than a home work advertisement, the ASA says, and fell foul of the advertising industry's own code on two counts implying that vacancies existed when they did not and failing to make clear that there would be a charge for registration and information.

The ASA, the industry's self-regulatory body, prints in full in the current case report the requirements of "the industry's code on homework" and on recruiting.

This, the association says, is because it is "sufficiently concerned" by advertisements which fail to give the required information "and which sometimes even appear designed to mislead."

**Wallchart**

THE 1982 SALES FORECAST HAS JUST BEEN ISSUED

OR, AS OUR SALES DIRECTOR PREFERS TO CALL IT,.....

THE FORESIGHT SAGA!

### Montagnard

Nicolas Gorodiche, Air France's new top man in London, turns out to be a rather exceptional airline manager. He came up through the technical and operational side of aviation rather than through marketing, as is the case with most of his management colleagues.

Aged 43, Gorodiche holds a commercial pilot's licence and has some 3,000 flight hours in his log book. He joined Air France in 1970 from Air Alpes, the French domestic airline which carries skiers to remote spots in the mountains, after service with the French Air Force as a test pilot.

His Air France career has taken him to Venezuela, Colombia, Ecuador and Nepal, where he was general man-

ager for Royal Nepal Airlines under a management contract. He is married with three daughters and his hobbies are mountaineering, skiing, tennis, golf and music.

In London Gorodiche replaces Michel Baron, Air France's general manager here for the past five years. He is being promoted to be the airline's general manager for Paris, where he will control a staff of 1,000.

Baron's claim to posterity during his spell in London is that in 1980 Air France broke airline records by carrying more than a million passengers in one calendar year on a scheduled international service between London and Paris. Traffic surged, despite the recession after Air France simplified economy fares and replaced first with "club" class.

### Accident prone?

The proposal for an EEC information system on accidents, the home seems to have met with a debilitating accident in the Council of Ministers. Every year there are some 30,000 deaths within the Community as a result of accidents in the home and the number of injuries approaches five million.

In 1978 the Commission proposed a system which would gather information about these accidents with a view to pinpointing dangerous commercial products. The similar Home Accident Surveillance System has operated in Britain since 1977, and has, for instance, exposed hidden dangers in children's cots and prams.

The Commission originally proposed an 18-month pilot

scheme to run until January 1, 1982. But, instead of finishing on that date, the Council Ministers has only now agreed that it can start then; and it must run an extra year — until June, 1984.

The Commission will be invited to submit a new proposal to the Council, which will consider whether it really wants a Community information system or not. By the time they get round to that it should be 1986.

I wonder if I ought to move? In the midweek edition of the bi-weekly South London Press which I bought yesterday the three main stories on page one were headlined "Chorister jailed for rape attempts", "Women warned of sex killer", and "Gumman's suicide remains a mystery". Heaven knows what the weekend edition will bring. Given the mayhem that is going on around me, I am not surprised at an item on an inside page, which was culled from a parish magazine. It is about a vicar learning to become a prison chaplain and choosing as his farewell sermon a text from St John's Gospel: "I go to prepare a place for thee." Now there's a man who knows how to follow through with a job.

Ross Davies









### Stock Exchange Prices

## Attempts at a rally

**ACCOUNT DAYS:** Dealings Began, Oct 12. Dealings End, Oct 23. § Contrango Day, Oct 26. Settlement Day, Nov 2

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days

[illegible]











## Disappointment for returning exiles







**Edited by Peter Dear**

### Radio 2

4.55	News
5.00	Mainly for Pleasure. Richard Graves with a programme of music for the early evening
5.40	Piano recital: Preludes and Fugues Op. 87 Nos. 15-20. A whole pair of Ears. Arnold
6.00	King's College, London, reviews his choice from the week's music broadcasting.
6.30	Haydn: The Creation + music from the Royal Festival Hall.
7.00	Baritone, Margaret Price (soprano); Ulfel, Philip Langridge (tenor); Raphael/Adam, John Shirley-Quirk (baritone). With the BBC Singers and BBC
7.40	Opera House
8.00	Opera House

10 Ray Moore, † 7.30 Terry Wogan, †  
 11.00 Jimmy Young † 12.00 John  
 Innes, † 2.00 Ed Stewart, † 4.00 David  
 Dimbleby, † 5.45 News, 6.00 David  
 Dimbleby, † 8.00 World Cup Soccer  
 Special, 9.30 The Best of Pops (new  
 music) (joining only), 10.00 Got The  
 Best out of your Body (2), 10.30  
 Robert Gregg, 11.00 Brian Matthew †  
 in mid-5.00 "100 Truents" Hour, †  
 12.00 5.00 Two's Company †

**Radio 1**

10.00 As Radio 2, 7.00 Mike Read, 9.00  
 John Bates, 11.30 Dave Lee Travis,  
 12.00 Paul Burnett, 3.30 Steve Wright,

0.55 Recital: Schmelzer, Telemann;  
records  
39 and Counting + Six comic  
playlets by Colin McLaren, (2)  
1.00 "On the Road to Damascus"  
News

[illegible]

Kenneth More stars in the Afternoon Theatre production, *Chicken on the Road* (Radio 4 3.02pm)

World Today: 8:00 World News: 5:05  
Evening Post: 5:25 Openly: 6:00 World News:  
9:15  
Tuesdays 4:00 News: News Summary: 2:15  
1:00  
09 The World Today: 10:25 Paperback  
10:30 Financial News: 10:40 World News:  
10:45 Sports Roundup: 11:00 Rolling Stone  
11:05  
11:30 Top Ten: 12:00 World News:  
09 News about Britain: 12:15  
12:30 Evening Post: 12:45 Frank  
1:00  
Saturday: 2:00 World News: 2:09 News about  
Britain: 2:15 Network 10: 2:30  
Sunday: 3:00 World News: 2:09 News about  
Britain: 2:15  
10:15 News: 6:45 The World

1:21 VHF 88-91MHz Radio 3

**HTV**

**SCOTTISH**  
Thames except: 1.20 pm-1.30  
Tues. 5.15 Teatime Tales. 5.20-5.45  
Crossroads. 6.00 Scotland Today. 6.30

**HIV CYMRU/WALES**

HTV West except: 12.00-12.10 pm  
Sledabab 4.45-5.15 Sion Bill 5.15-  
5.20 Dick Tracy 6.00-6.15 Y Dydd  
6.15-6.30 Report News 6.30-7.00 Taff  
to 10.30-12.00 Midweek Sports  
Special.

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**ULSTER**

Thames except: 7.20 pm-1.30  
ninchinitia, 5.15 Cartoon, 6.20-6.45  
Good Good Good Good Evening  
start, 12.00 Badtime, Gledow.

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**ANGLIA**

Thames except: 1.00 pm-1.30  
News, 5.15-5.45 Here's the Boomer,  
6.30 About Anglia, 12.00 News, 12.05  
Preview, 12.35 The Big Question.

**BORDER**

Themes except: 1.20 pm-1.30 pm  
5.15-5.45 Paul Squire Show  
10 Lookaround Wednesday 6.15  
10 Political Broadcast Scottish  
National Party 6.25 Crossroads, 6.50  
Frontline Story, 7.20 Scotsport  
Irish Cup Special, Northern Ireland v  
Scotland 7.30-8.00 Only When 1  
National Party 10.30 Diamonds, 11.30 news,  
12.25 Crossroads.

**CHANNEL**

Themes except: 12.00-12.30 pm  
Broadcast, 1.20-1.30 News 5.15-5.45  
Paul Squire Show 6.15-6.45 Channel  
4 Sport, 12.00 Superstar profile, Paul  
McMan, 12.25 pm Epilogue,  
Crossroads.

# Classified Guide

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28

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Box	Business to Business
1930	Domestic Situations
1931	Educational
1932	Flat Sharing
1933	For Sale
1934	Holidays and Villas
1935	La crème de la crème
1936	Legal Notice
1937	Motor Cars
1938	Musical Instruments
1939	Property
1940	Public Announcement
1941	Recruitment Opportunities
1942	Rentals
1943	Secretarial and Non-Secretarial
1944	Services
1945	Short Lets

	2
	2
	2
	2
	2
	2
	25,26,27
	2
	2
	2
	26,27
	2
	2
	2
Marital Appointments	2
	2
	2

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**How to Place**  
To place an advertisement in the **Private Advertisers and only** **Appointments** **Property Estate Agents** **Personal Trade** **Queries** in connection with **appeared, other than cancelled** **Classified Queries Department** All advertisements are acceptance of Times News Service are available on request. **The deadline for all copy** i.e., **Monday** is the deadline **Monday and Tuesday**. Stop **p.m.** prior to the day of publication.

**Classified Ad.**  
any of these categories, tel  
Deaths, Marriages and Deaths  
01-837 931  
01-278 936  
01-278 923  
01-278 935  
advertisements that have  
ions or alterations, tel.  
ject 01-837 1234, Extn 718  
subject to the conditions of  
ers Limited, copies of which  
one clear publishing day  
for Wednesday, Friday  
and Alterations to copy is 3.  
ation; for Monday's issue th

regarding the cancella  
ed.

**Classified**

**Personal Columns**

£17.50 per  
£20.00 per

**Appointments**

£17.50 per  
£20.00 per

**THOMAS CHURCH FINE ARTS, CAN.**  
Bond St. Modern British Paint-  
ings, 1900-1950. John, Les-  
Augustine and Gwenda. L. 10.00  
Bicket, Wandsworth. 01-873-1111

**VICTORIA A. ALBERT MUSEUM,**  
CAN. MODERN JAPANESE  
QUEEN ART UNITS 8. November  
Adm. Free. Woking. 10.00-3.30  
Sun. 10.00-5.00. Closed 2.00

**WAYNE FINCH ARTS, 17 Old**  
Way. Recent works. 10.00. Chi-  
Kington (SAL) BARNES 893 425

**ad Rates**

**£3.25 per line (min 2 lines)**  
in semi-display (min 3 cms)  
in full display (min 3 cms)

**£3.25 per line (min 2 lines)**  
in semi-display (min 3 cms)  
in full display (min 3 cms)

**WHITECHAPEL ART GALLERY**  
Whitechapel High St. 01 577 0107  
Mon-Fri 10-6, Sat 10-5, Sun 12-5  
THE TWENTIETH CENTURY, Part 1  
1901-50, Sun-Fri 10-5, Sat Adm  
At 12.00, Free 2-5

**MASTERS OF PRINTMAKING**  
**GAINSBOROUGH TO PICASSO**  
Major etchings & lithographs  
Bonnart, Dürer, Gainsborough,  
Rembrandt, Turner, Picasso, Laugel,  
WILLIAM WESTON GALLERY, W1.  
At 12.00, Free 2-5



